Thrift Savings Plan

To Retirement and BEYOND

PRESENTED BY

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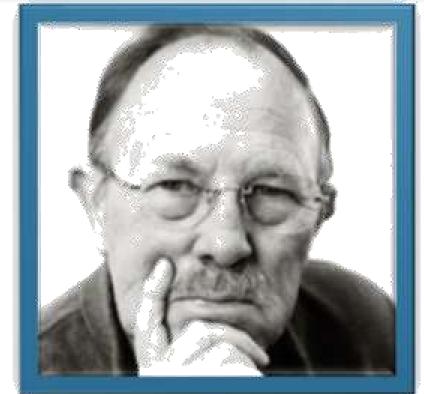




Not an easy task...

Retirement income planning is a really hard problem. It's the hardest problem I've ever looked at.

- William F. Sharpe



Agenda

- Retirement income sources and risks
- Basic retirement income goals
- Estimating fixed income
- Estimating income from the Thrift Saving Plan
- TSP Life Annuity as a distribution option
- Retirement income risks
- Spending shock risks
- Retirement income drawdown strategies
- Drawdown and balance sustainability scenarios
- Key Takeaways



Retirement Income Sources and Risks

Typical retirement income sources for Federal employees:



How is the amount determined?



Is it protected from inflation?





How long will it last?



FERS + other pension income

Thrift Savings Plan

Retirement Income and Risks

RISKS	FERS + other pension income	Social Security Retirement	Thrift Savings Plan + IRAs + other employer-based plans
Market (volatility)	No impact	No impact	Volatility dependent upon allocation
Inflation	Annual Cost of Living Allowance increases*	Annual Cost of Living Allowance increases	No protection
Longevity (can run out?)	Payments continue for life	Payments continue for life	No protection

*Beginning at age 62 (Except for special provision employees)

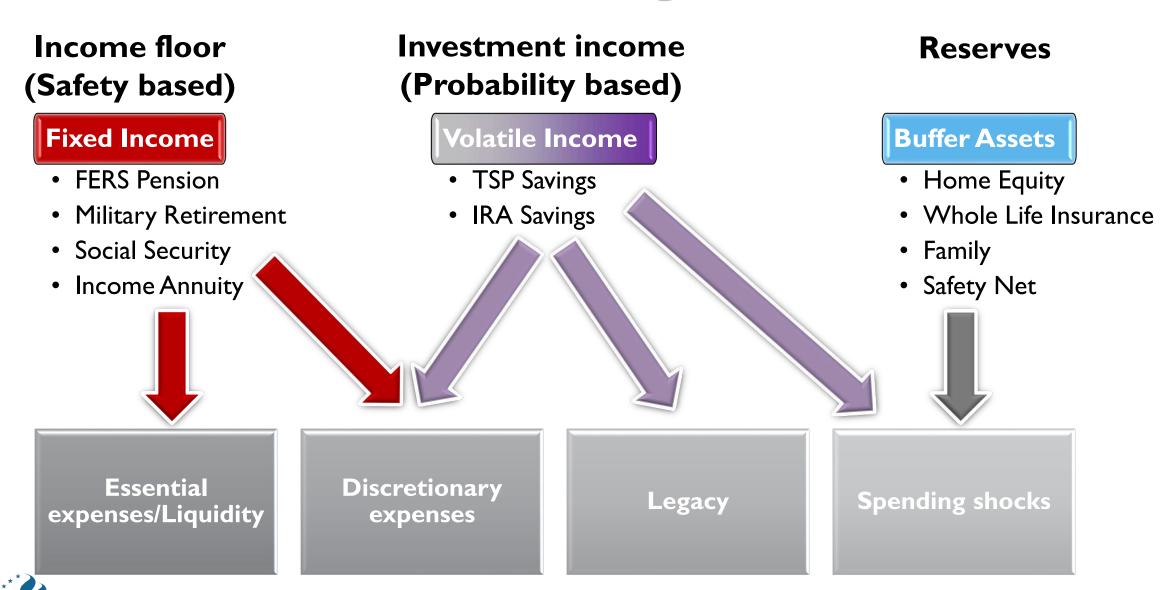
Fixed Income

Volatile Income



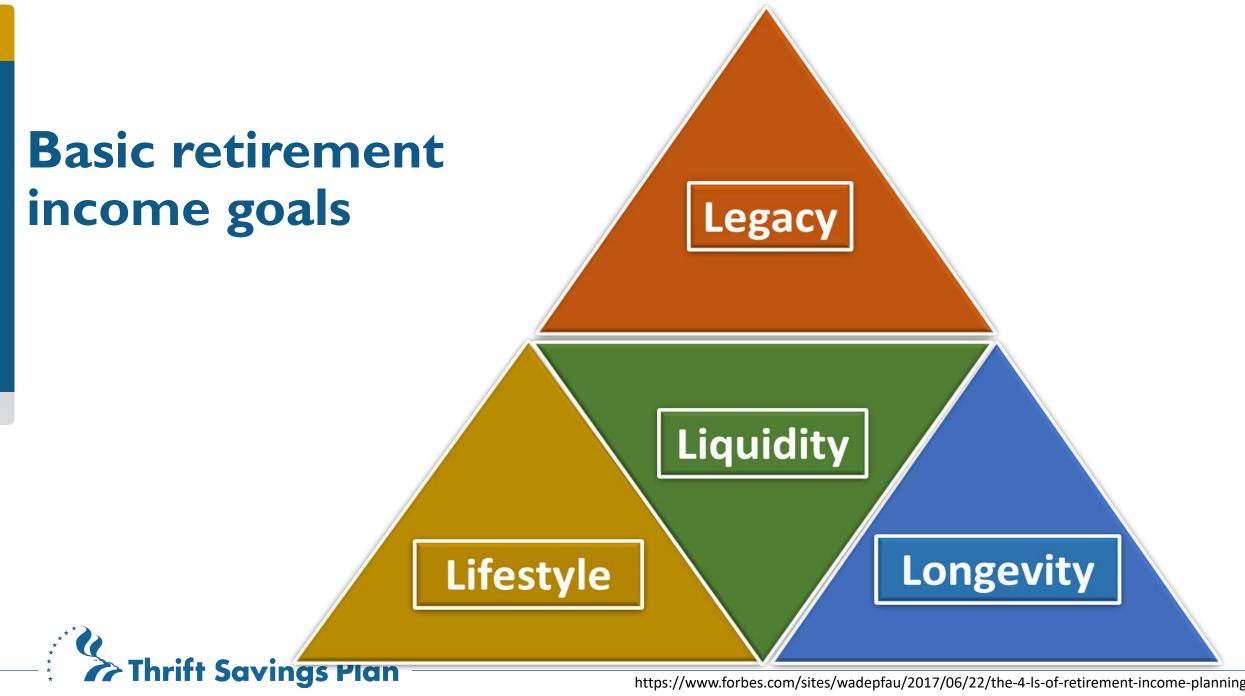
Retirement Income Matching

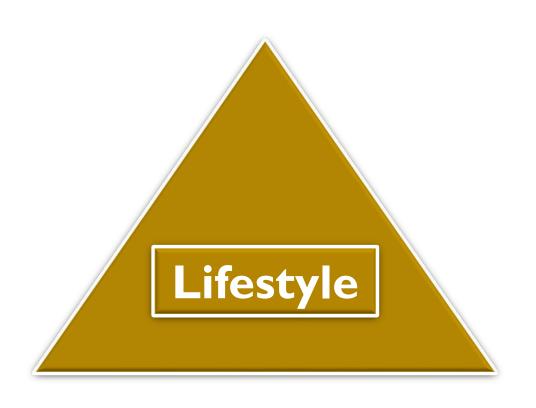
Thrift Savings Plan



Basic retirement income goals

Prioritizing for lifestyle and sustainability



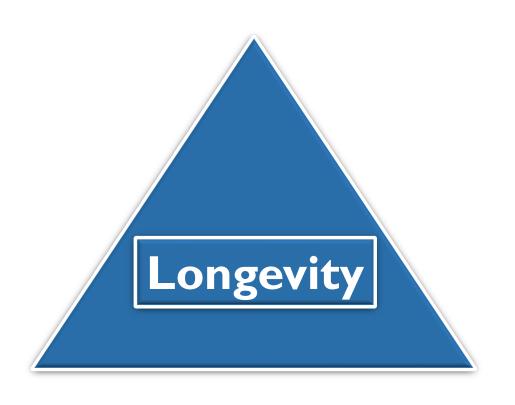


How do you want to live your life and maintain your desired overall standard of living in retirement?

Includes travel and leisure, self-improvement activities, social engagement, helping with financial needs.



This is a PRIMARY Goal



How long will you need to fund your essential expenses in retirement?

Includes housing, health care, basic living expenses, and maintaining a basic level of financial independence.

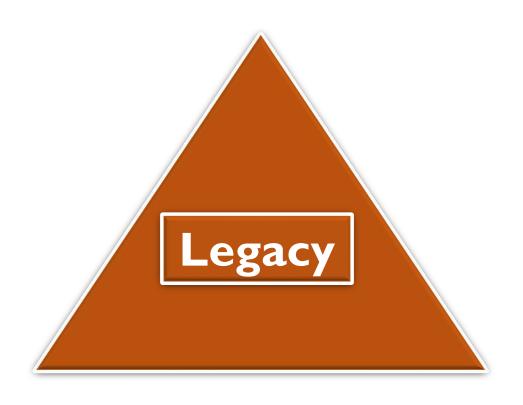


This is a PRIMARY Goal



How much will you set aside to provide funds for unexpected contingences?

Includes supporting family members during emergency's, major repairs or home improvement necessities, long-term care needs, or other life transitions.



How much do you want to leave to your family and/or others?

Includes leaving assets for subsequent generations or to charities.

Prioritizing retirement income sources to meet basic retirement goals

Fixed Income

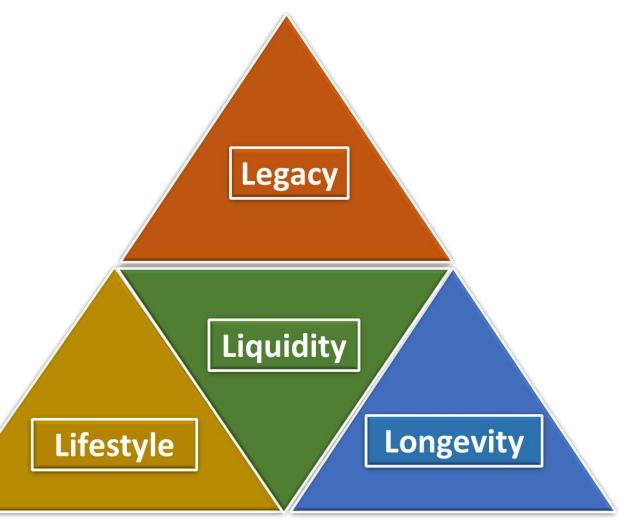
- FERS Pension
- Military retirement
- Social Security
- Income Annuity (TSP Life Annuity)

Volatile Income

- TSP Savings
- IRA Savings

Buffer Assets

- Home Equity
- Whole Life Insurance
- Other





Retirement cash-flow forecast (budget)

- Accounts for all foreseeable expenses and income streams that fall within the Lifestyle and Longevity goals.
- Must also account for Liquidity goal to cover spending for expenses that are necessary, but don't fall within our normal monthly spending.
- If there is a quantifiable Legacy goal, it should be accounted.
- Example templates for monthly budget planners and retirement planning financial worksheets can found in Excel.



Assessing personal retirement readiness

Using personal financial tools

Expenses that will or may decrease in retirement

TSP contributions **OASDI (SS)** deductions **IRA** contributions **Income taxes** Life insurance **Commuting costs Mortgage Reduced housing costs** if you "downsize" Financial support for children



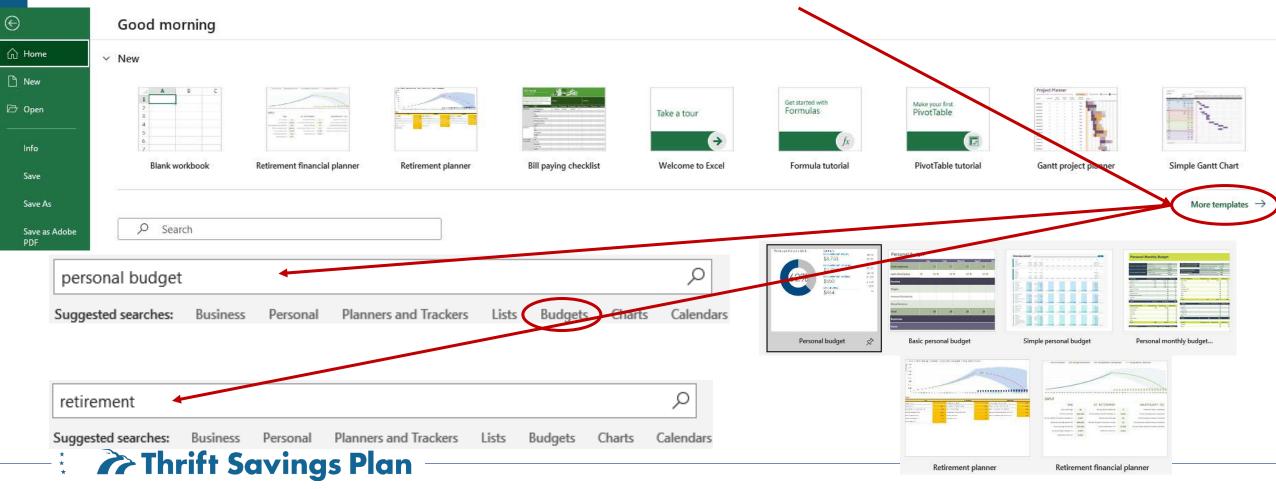
Expenses that will or may increase in retirement

Health care **Travel** Recreation and hobbies **Vacation** property Relocation

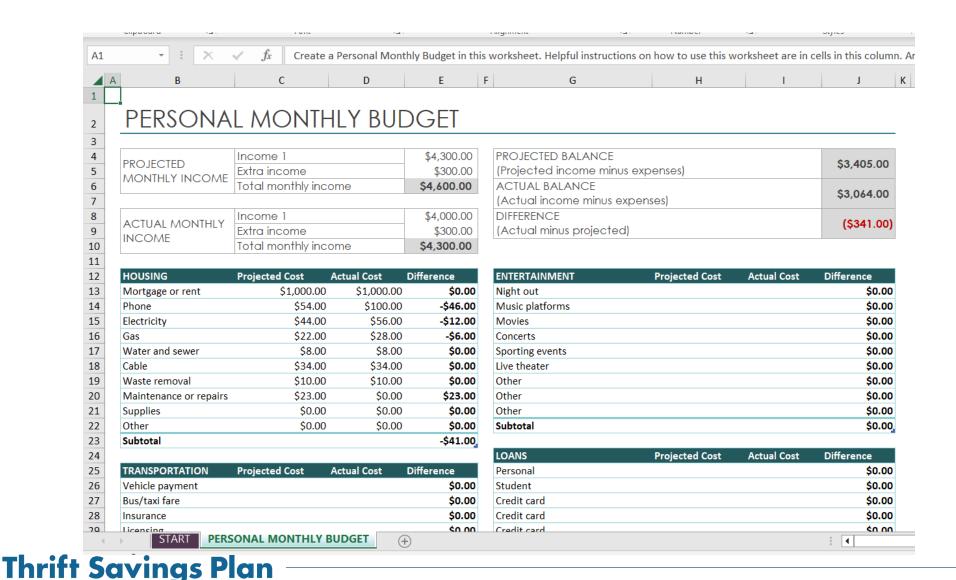


Excel templates for budgeting and retirement planning

In Excel, go to File, click on "More templates"



Monthly Budget Example - Template from Excel



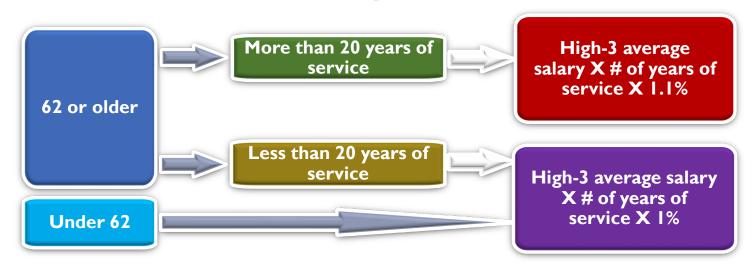
Estimating fixed income

FERS annuity

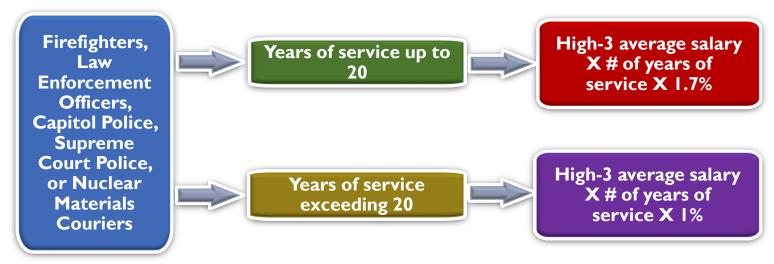
FERS basic annuity computation

Basic annuity is computed based on the highest average basic pay earned during any 3 consecutive years of service

Non-Disability Retirements

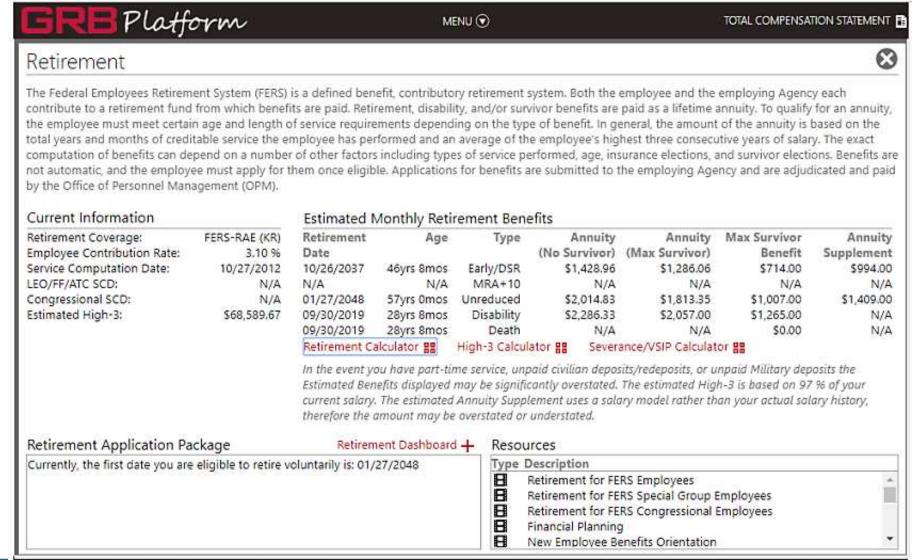


Special Provision Retirements





Department/Agency Benefits Platforms - GRB





Department/Agency Benefits Platforms - EEX

If Terminally III (life expectancy < 2 years)

Section H @ Your Estimated Gross with Basic Immediate Annuity a. Does not include your TSP Annuity, FERS Supplemental Annuity or Social Security Benefit. Calculations are in today's dollars, including scheduled step increases and currently accrued sick leave. Does not include annual comparability increases. c. Hi-3 Avg. Salary is usually based on your last 3 years of salary history or your current salary. d. Must have at least five years of federal civilian service to meet the requirement for retirement, not including time from Military Service Buyback. Contact your Human Resources Office for more information. Enter your own Optional Unreduced Date: Enter Date Estimated Annuity -Est. Hi-3 Avg. Without Survivorship With Max. Survivorship Annuity To Survivor Date Salary (Yearly / Monthly) (Yearly / Monthly) (Yearly / Monthly) Retirement Type Optional Unreduced (Earliest Date) Optional Unreduced (User date) Optional Reduced N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A (FERS Only) N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A Voluntary Early or Discontinued (Earliest Date) N/A N/A (Early Ret, requires authority) NA Disability N/A N/A N/A N/A N/A (Amount will be reduced by your Social Security Disability N/A Benefit, if any.) Amount You Contribute To Your Annuity Annually Amount Gov't Contributes To Your Annuity Annually Yes, except Optional Reduced Retirement Eligible for FERS Supplemental Annuity At Min. Retirement Age (MRA) Through Age 62? Approximates amount of projected Social Security benefit earned under FERS Amount of FERS Supplemental Annuity if Between MRA and Age 62. (See Your Benefits Specialist).

Eligible for "Lump Sum" Alternate Form of Annuity?



FERS annuity deductions - Taxes

Federal taxes

Your FERS pension annuity is ordinary income and subject to federal income tax based on your marginal tax rate.

Tax tables are set into law by the United States Congress and administered by the IRS.

OPM must withhold for Federal income taxes based on their methods (see: Publication 15-T (2023) Federal Income Tax Withholding Methods)

You can change your tax withholding amount at any time

State taxes

You must specify the dollar amount of state tax you want withheld from your monthly payments.

Eight states – Alaska, Florida, Nevada, South Dakota, Tennessee, Texas, Washington and Wyoming – don't tax wages, salaries, dividends, interest or any sort of income.

Six more states – Alabama, Hawaii, Illinois, Mississippi, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania don't tax pension income.

Tax table for Single filers – 2023*

Tax rate	Taxable income bracket	Taxes owed
10%	\$0 to \$11,000	10% of taxable income
12%	\$11,001 to \$44,725	\$1,100 plus 12% of the amount over \$11,000
22%	\$44,726 to \$95,375	\$5,147 plus 22% of the amount over \$44,725
24%	\$95,376 to \$182,100	\$16,290 plus 24% of the amount over \$95,375
32%	\$182,101 to \$231,250	\$376104 plus 32% of the amount over \$182,100
35%	\$231,251 to \$578,125	\$52,832 plus 35% of the amount over \$231,250
37%	\$578,126 or more	\$174,238.25 plus 37% of the amount over \$578,125

^{*}The current tax code has been in place since the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) was signed into law in late 2017. Most provisions, including personal income tax rates and brackets, expire at the end of 2025 unless Congress acts.



Tax table for Married, filing joint – 2023*

Tax rate	Taxable income bracket	Tax owed
10%	\$0 to \$22,000	10% of taxable income
12%	\$22,001 to \$89,450	\$2,200 plus 12% of the amount over \$22,000
22%	\$89,451 to \$190,750	\$10,294 plus 22% of the amount over \$89,450
24%	\$190,751 to \$364,200	\$32,580 plus 24% of the amount over \$190,750
32%	\$364,201 to \$462,500	\$74,208 plus 32% of the amount over \$364,200
35%	\$462,501 to \$693,750	\$105,664 plus 35% of the amount over \$462,500
37%	\$693,751 or more	\$186,601.50 plus 37% of the amount over \$693,750

^{*}The current tax code has been in place since the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) was signed into law in late 2017. Most provisions, including personal income tax rates and brackets, expire at the end of 2025 unless Congress acts.



FERS annuity deductions (other)

Survivor Benefits	Maximum Survivor Annuity = 10% reduction; upon your death, spouse receives 50% of the unreduced earned annuity	
Deficites	Partial Survivor Annuity = 5%., reduction; upon your death, spouse receives 25% of the rate of the unreduced self-only annuity	
	No Survivor Annuity = no reduction and upon your death, no survivor annuity will be paid to spouse	
Federal Employee Health	Premiums remain the same in retirement except you will pay taxes on them	
Benefits Plan (FEHB)	May appear different since retirement annuity is paid monthly as opposed to biweekly, etc.	
Federal Employee Life	If eligible, you may choose to continue coverage and pay the premiums but you are not required to do so	
Insurance (FEGLI)	You can cancel or decrease your coverage at any time	
(FEGLI)	tou can cancel or decrease your coverage at any time	

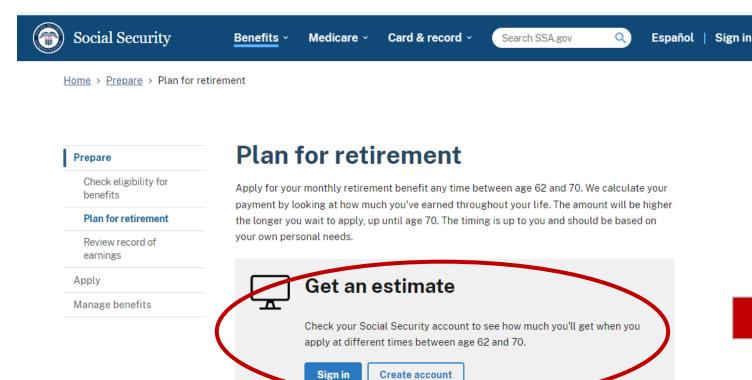


Estimating fixed income

Estimating Social Security Retirement Benefits

Access your Social Security retirement benefit details

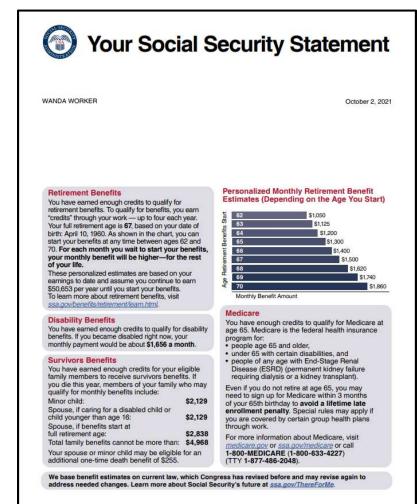








Sample Social Security Statement on SSA.gov



Earnings Record

Review your earnings history below to ensure it is accurate. This is important because we base your future benefits on our record of your earnings. There's a limit to the amount of earnings you pay Social Security taxes on each year. Earnings above the limit do not appear on your earnings record. We have combined your earlier years of earnings, but you can view them online with my Social Security. If you find an error view your full earnings record online and call 1-800-772-1213.

Work Year	Earnings Taxed for Social Security	Farnings Taxed for Medicare (began 1966)
1937-1950	\$ 13,989	S
1951-1965	46,482	
1966-1970	18,236	18,236
1971-1980	20,000	20,000
1981-1990	41,250	41,250
1991-2000	257,712	257,712
2001	34,915	34,915
2002	35,591	35,591
2003	36,717	36,717
2004	38,686	38,686
2005	40,325	40,325
2006	42,315	42,315
2007	44,346	44,346
2008	45,437	45,437
2009	44,784	44,784
2010	45,847	45,847
2011	47,146	47,146
2012	48,349	48,349
2013	48,606	48,606
2014	49,860	49,860
2015	50,850	50,850
2016	50,158	50,158
2017	50,440	50,440
2018	50,653	50,653
2019	Not yet r	ecorded

laxes Pai

Total estimated Social Security and Medicare taxes paid over your working career based on your Earnings Record:

Social Security taxes You paid: \$34,288 Employer(s): \$36,003

Medicare taxes You paid: \$19,396 Employer(s): \$19,396

Earnings Not Covered by Social Security

You may also have earnings from work not covered by Social Security. This work may have been for federal, state, or local government or in a foreign country.

If you participate in a retirement plan or receive a pension based on work for which you did not pay Social Security tax, it could lower your benefits. To find out more, visit <u>ssa.gov/gpo-wep</u>.

Important Things to Know about Your Social Security Benefits

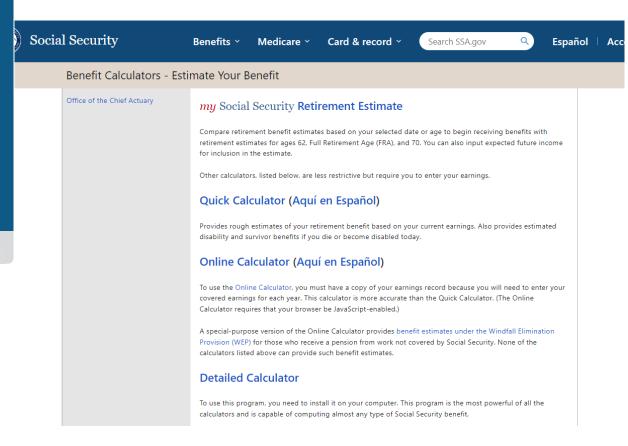
- Social Security benefits are not intended to be your only source of retirement income. You may need other savings, investments, pensions, or retirement accounts to make sure you have enough money when you retire.
- You need at least 10 years of work (40 credits) to qualify for retirement benefits. Your benefit amount is based on your highest 35 years of earnings. If you have fewer than 35 years of earnings, years without work count as 0 and may reduce your benefit amount.
- We use cost of living adjustments so your benefits will keep up with inflation.
- The age you claim benefits will affect the benefit amount for your surviving spouse.
- If you get retirement or disability benefits, your spouse and children also may qualify for benefits.
- If you are divorced and were married for 10 years, you may be able to claim benefits on your ex-spouse's record. If your divorced spouse receives benefits on your record, that does not affect your or your current spouse's benefit amounts.
- When you apply for either retirement or spousal benefits, you may be required to apply for the other benefit as well.
- For more information about benefits for you and your family, visit <u>ssa.gov/benefits/</u> retirement/planner/applying7.html.
- When you are ready to apply, visit us at ssa.gov/benefits/retirement/apply.html.
- The Statement is updated annually. It is available upon request, either online or by mail.

SSA.gov Follow us on social media ssa.gov/socialmedia

Form SSA-7005-SM-OL (05/21)

SSA.gov – Benefit calculators





Related information

He	lpful Links	Advice on when to begin receiving retirement benefits	
ber Life	nen to start nefits Å, e expectancy culator		
reti	ect of early irement on nefits	If you are under your normal retirement age when you choose to begin receiving benefits, your benefit will be reduced.	
	ect of earnings on nefits	If you are under your normal retirement age and you continue to work while receiving benefits, you may be subject to the retirement earnings test. We can show the effect of your earnings on your benefits.	
reti	w we compute irement benefits, strative examples	Basis for retirement benefit computations	
Ind	lexing factors	Approximate factors used to adjust earnings for a selected eligibility year	



Social Security retirement benefit increases as you get older

• You may elect to begin receiving your Social Security retirement benefit as early as age 62 or, you may wait and begin receiving it at any time up until you reach age 70



- The longer you wait, the more your benefit will increase
- At your "Full Retirement Age," (FRA), you:
 - Receive 100% of your benefit, and
 - Your benefit is not subject to a reduction
- If you were born in 1960 or later, your FRA is 67
 - If your full benefit at age 67 is \$1,000, your benefit if you begin receiving it at age:
 - 62 is 30% less, or \$700,
 - 70 is 24% more, or \$1,240

How much Social Security benefit changes based on age

140.00% 30.00% Full 20.00% 120.00% -Retirement Age (FRA) 10.00% 100.00% Percent of Percent 80.00% 0.00% benefit of compared difference 60.00% -10.00% to FRA* from FRA* 40.00% -20.00% 20.00% -30.00% 0.00% -40.00% 62 63 64 65 **67** 68 69 66 **70** Age

Taxes on Social Security retirement benefits (as of tax year 2022)

Filing as:

Single

Married

If your combined income is between:	You will pay taxes on up to:	If your combined income is more than:	You will pay taxes on up to:
\$25,000 and \$34,000	50%	\$34,000	85%
\$32,000 and \$44,000	50%	\$44,000	85%

• Thirty-seven states and D.C. either have no income tax:

AK, FL, NV, SD, TN, TX, WA, WY or,

• Do not include Social Security benefits in their calculation for taxable income: AL, AZ, AR, CA, DE, DC, GA, HI, ID, IL, IN, IA, KY, LA, ME, MD, MA, MI, MS,

NH, NJ, NY, NC, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, VA, WI



Estimating income from the Thrift Saving Plan

How much will Mary's TSP monthly installment payments need to be in her first year of retirement?

- Mary is a 56-year-old Federal employee and has 21 years of covered FERS service
- Her salary with locality pay is \$100,000
- She wants to retire at age 65
- She wants her total retirement income to be based on 75% of her final years' gross salary*

*Using a "replacement ratio" like this is less accurate than using numbers based on an actual cash flow analysis.

This calculation ignores any spouse income either pre or post retirement.

Mary's projected income need (first year of retirement)

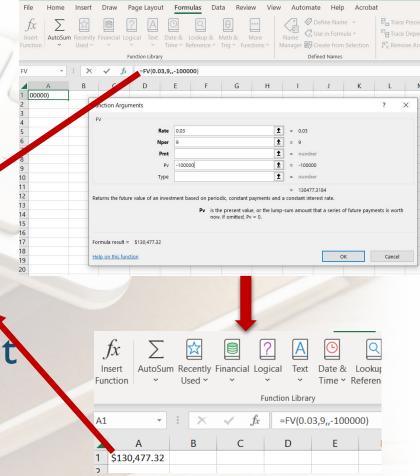
- Final years' gross salary
 - Using Excel "Future Value formula:

=FV(0.03,9,,-100000) \$130,477

Total income needed first year in retirement

 $$130,477 \times .75 = $97,858$

 $$97,858 \div 12 = $8,155$



Mary projects she will need a total of \$8,155 gross income each month during her first year of retirement...



Mary's retirement income projections

FERS annuity

- Years of FERS service: 30 years
- Multiplier for age 62 or older with 20 or more years of service: 1.1%
- High-3: approximately \$130,000
- $30 \times .011 \times $130,000 = $42,900$
- Subtract 10% or survivor annuity (-\$4,900)
- \$42,900 \$4,900 = \$38,610
- $$38,610 \div 12 = $3,217/monthly$

Social Security retirement*

- DOB: 6/1966 and current gross salary:
 \$100,000
- If benefits begin in 2031 at age 65: \$2,317/monthly

TSP monthly installment required to reach 75% replacement rate \$8,115 - (\$3,217 + \$2,317) = \$2,620/monthly

\$3,217 + \$2,317 + 2,620 = \$8,154

*SSA.gov Quick Calculator estimate

https://www.ssa.gov/OACT/quickcalc/

https://www.opm.gov/retirement-services/fers-information/computation/

Very flexible distribution options from your TSP account

You can:

- Take distributions from Traditional or Roth balances separately
 - Plan a strategy to mitigate the Federal income taxes you must pay
- Use TSP's flexible options to meet your unique financial situation
 - Take partial distributions when needed separate from regular installments
 - Make changes to installment payments (increase, decrease, stop, restart, etc.)
- Use a portion* of your account balance to purchase a TSP Life Annuity to mitigate the risk of running out of money as you age

TSP Annuities Fact Sheet

TSP Distributions booklet

TSP Life Annuity

Another distribution option

TSP Life Annuity – what is it?

- A contract between TSP participant and the Thrift Savings Plan's annuity provider, Met Life
 - In exchange for the premium (purchase price), Met Life provides monthly income to the participant for the rest of their life. And, in the case of a joint annuity, to the last to die.



The amount of the payments depend upon:

- Amount of the premium
- Annuity interest rate index
- Age of the annuitant(s)
- Type of annuity
- Whether a pre-mature death mitigation feature is added and if so, which one



TSP Life Annuity pros & cons



- Eliminates longevity risk
- Payments not subject to market risk
- Can increase returns beyond those of other options
- No account management or account maintenance charges
- Option for level or increasing payments
- Option of "death payment" to beneficiary if death is premature

- Loss of liquidity
 - Decision is irrevocable
- Loss of purchasing power
 - Level payments aren't adjusted for inflation
- If death is premature, total payout could be less than the premium paid if 10-year certain or cash refund feature wasn't chosen
- Possibly smaller death benefit for beneficiaries of TSP account



Annuity payout rate

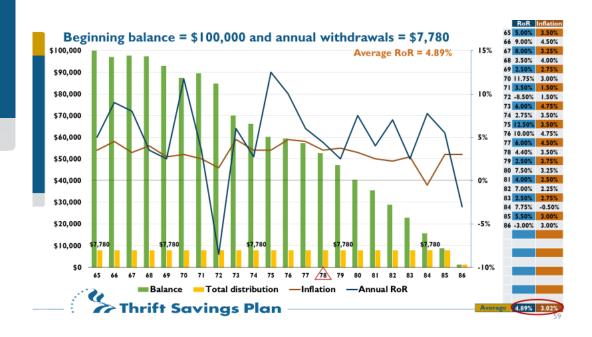


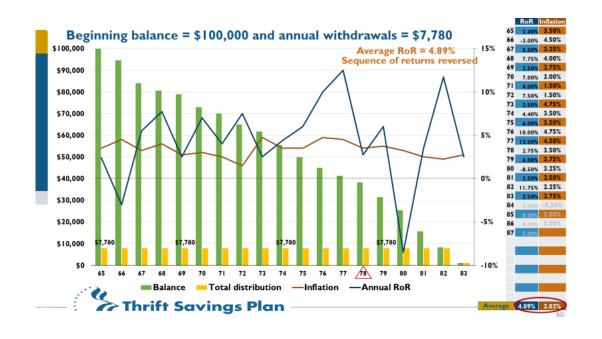
- The annual payout rate is the amount you will receive each year for the rest of your life divided by the premium you paid:
 - If the premium was \$100,000 and the payout is \$649 per month (\$7,784 for the year) then, \$7,784 ÷ \$100,000 = **7.78**%
 - You would be receiving \$7,780/year for the rest of your life, so...

If you had a TSP balance of \$100,000, and took withdrawals of exactly \$649/month (total of \$7,780/year), how long would your TSP account last?

Scenario I:

Scenario I:Average inflation = 3.02% and A) average Rate of Return = 4.89% and, B) average Rate of Return = 4.89% with sequence of returns reversed.



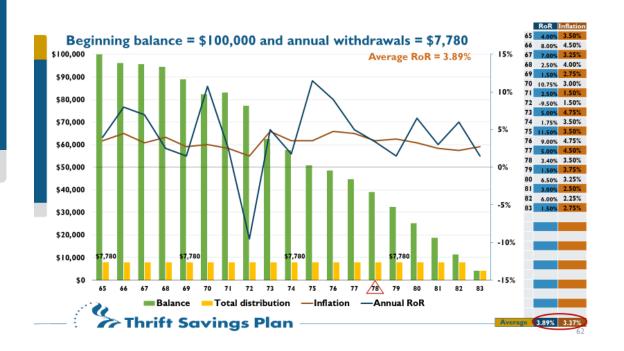


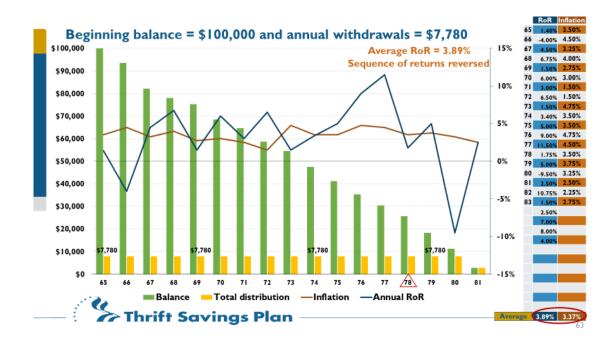


If you had a TSP balance of \$100,000, and took withdrawals of exactly \$649/month (total of \$7,780/year), how long would your TSP account last?

Scenario 2:

Average inflation = 3.37% and A) average Rate of Return = 3.89% and, B) average Rate of Return = 3.89% with sequence of returns reversed.





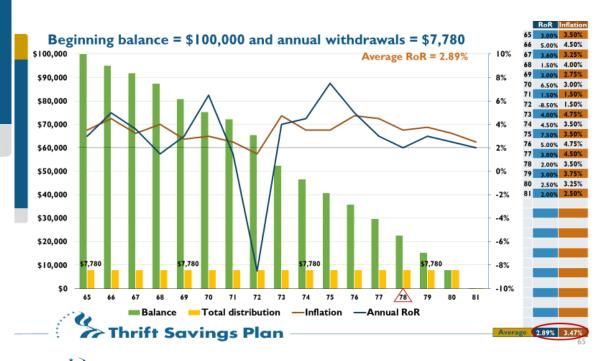


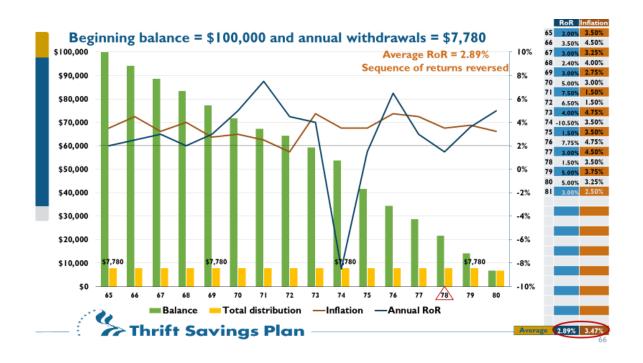
If you had a TSP balance of \$100,000, and took withdrawals of exactly \$649/month (total of \$7,780/year), how long would your TSP account last?

Scenario 3:

Scenario I:Average inflation = 3.47% and A) average Rate of Return = 2.89% and,

B) average Rate of Return = 2.89% with sequence of returns reversed.







ESTIMATED TSP Annuity Payout Rates based on a Single Life Annuity with level payments, no cash refund, no 10-yr certain option and a premium of \$100,000 as of September 2023

Monthly payments are calculated using the Payment and Annuity calculator based on an annuity interest rate index of 4.45*

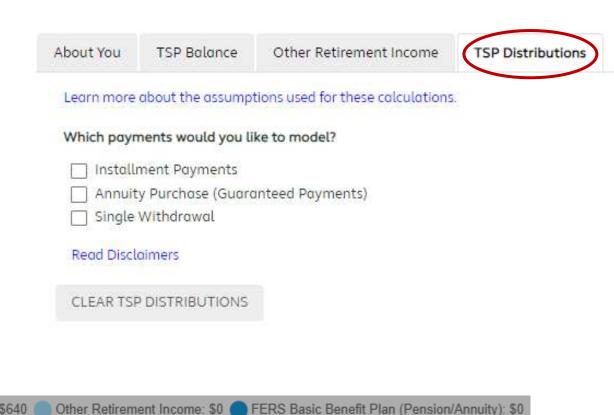
	Monthly	Annual	Payout	Age to
Age	payment	payment	rate	break even
60	\$600	\$7,200	7.20%	73.89
65	\$665	\$7,979	7.98%	77.53
70	\$751	\$9,014	9.01%	81.09
75	\$883	\$10,600	10.60%	84.43
80	\$1,094	\$13,123	13.12%	87.62
85	\$1,434	\$17,204	17.20%	90.81

These are ONLY ESTIMATES. Actual projected annuity payments MUST BE CONFIRMED through TSP at the time of purchase.



Estimating TSP Life Annuity payments on TSP.gov

- Log into your account and go to the "Retirement Income Modeler"
- Select the "TSP Distributions" tab
 - Check "Annuity Purchase"
 - Indicate payment start date
 - Indicate amount of balance to use toward annuity purchase
 - Indicate type of annuity and features (if any)
 - See monthly payment amount above tabs Social Security Income: \$0 TSP Annuity: \$640



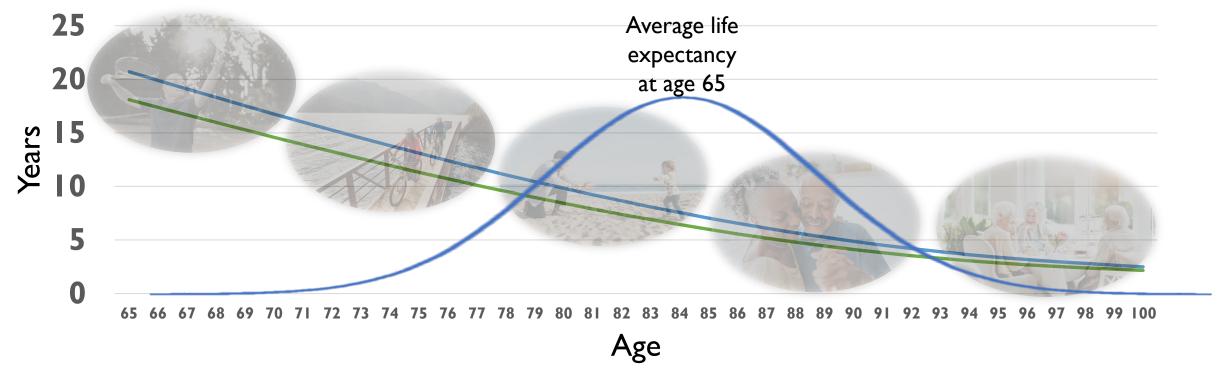


Retirement income risks

Longevity, market and sequence of returns risk

Longevity

Remaining Life Expectancy (from age 65)*

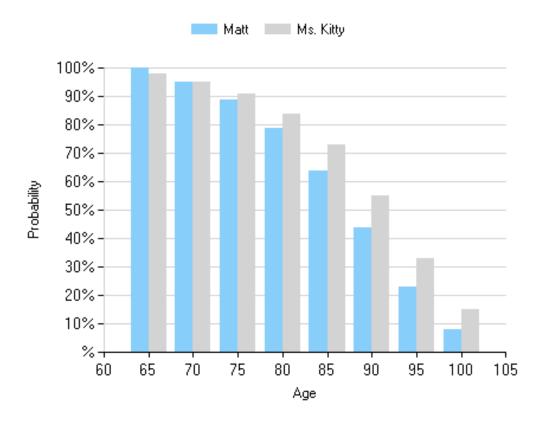


-Male -Female

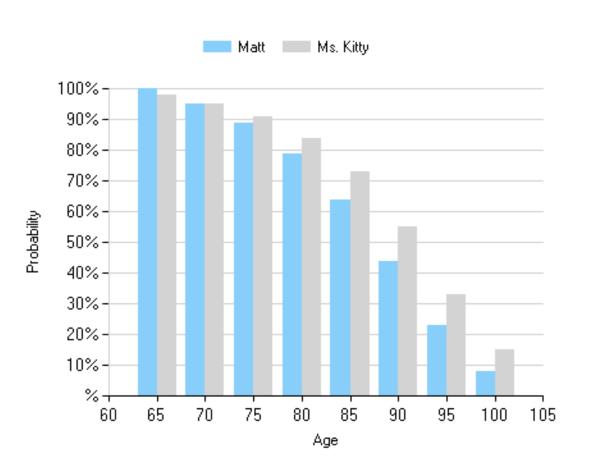
Longevity Illustrator - Matt and Ms. Kitty I

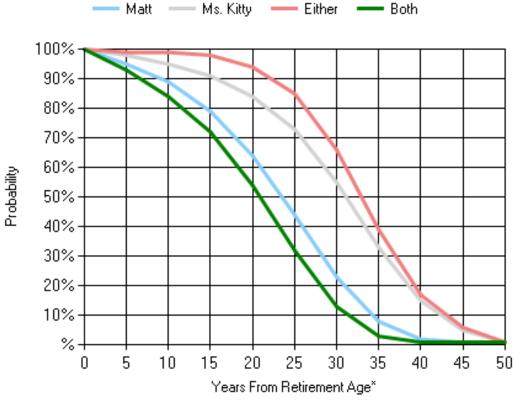
	Matt	Miss Kitty
Date of Birth	1/1/1961	1/1/1966
Nearest Age	62	57
Retirement Age	65	60
Gender	Male	Female
Do You Smoke?	No	No
General Health	Excellent	Excellent

Age	Matt	Ms. Kitty
65	100%	98%
70	95%	95%
75	89%	91%
80	79%	84%
85	64%	73%
90	44%	55%
95	23%	33%
100	8%	15%



Longevity Illustrator – Matt and Ms. Kitty 2





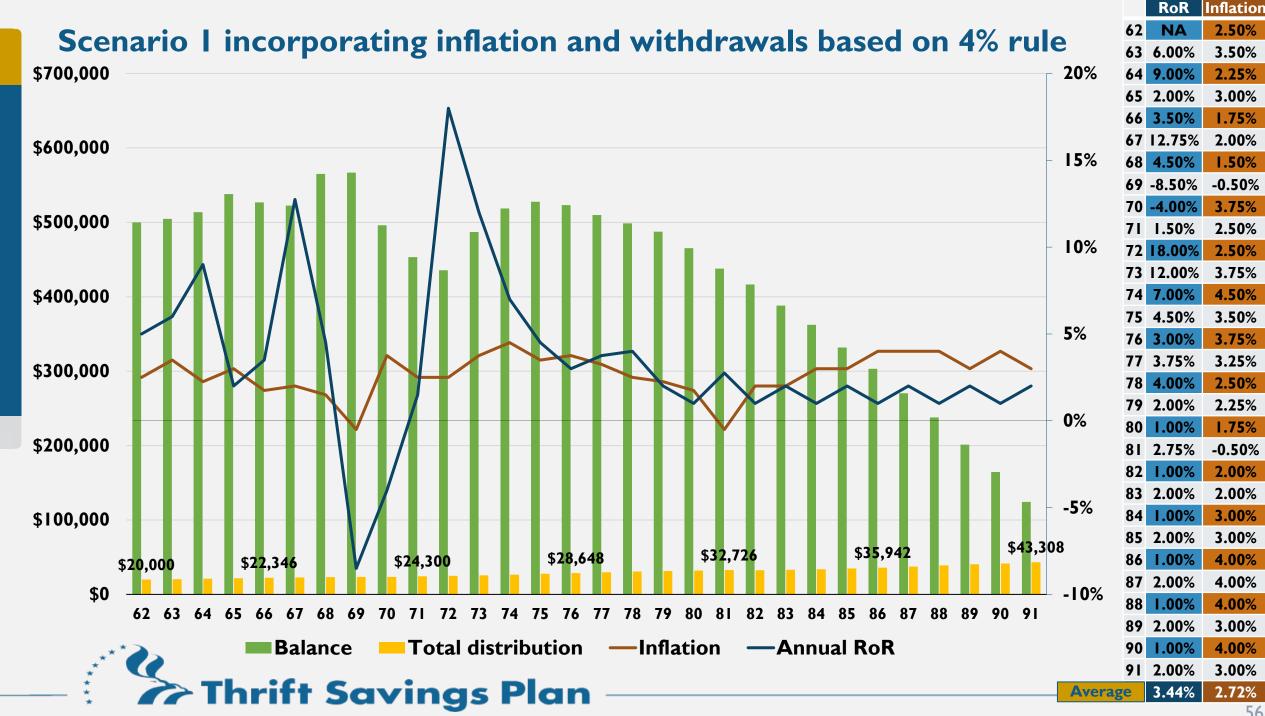
Sequence of returns doesn't matter if there are no withdrawals

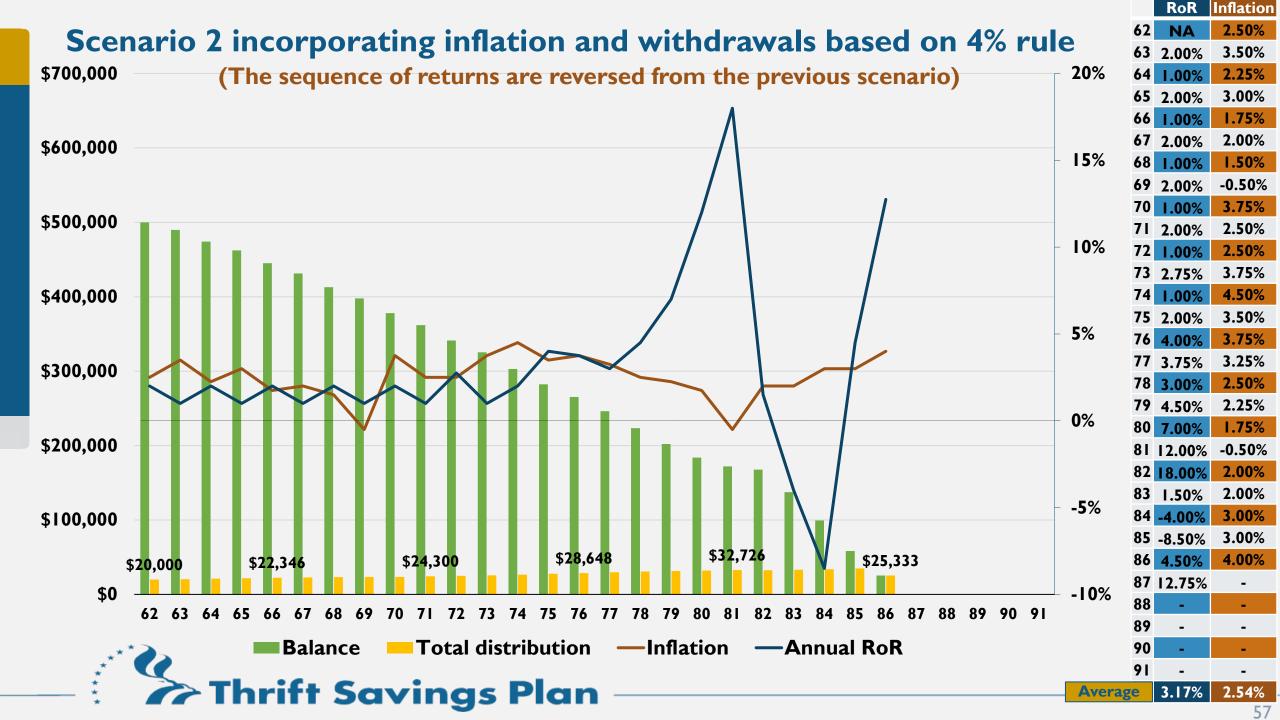
Scenario I			Scenario 2		
Age	Annual Return	TSP Balance EOY	Age	Annual Return	TSP Balance EOY
62	NA	\$500,000	62	NA	\$500,000
63	6.00%	\$530,000	63	2.00%	\$510,000
64	9.00%	\$577,700	64	1.00%	\$515,100
65	2.00%	\$589,254	65	2.00%	\$525,402
66	3.50%	\$609,878	66	1.00%	\$530,656
67	12.75%	\$687,637	67	2.00%	\$541,269
68	4.50%	\$718,581	68	1.00%	\$546,682
69	-8.50%	\$657,502	69	2.00%	\$557,615
70	-4.00%	\$631,202	70	1.00%	\$563,192
71	1.50%	\$640,670	71	2.00%	\$574,455
72	18.00%	\$755,990	72	1.00%	\$580,200
73	12.00%	\$846,709	73	2.75%	\$596,156
74	7.00%	\$905,979	74	1.00%	\$602,117
75	4.50%	\$946,748	75	2.00%	\$614,159
76	3.00%	\$975,150	76	4.00%	\$638,726
77	3.75%	\$1,011,718	77	3.75%	\$662,678
78	4.00%	\$1,052,187	78	3.00%	\$682,558
79	2.00%	\$1,073,231	79	4.50%	\$713,273
80	1.00%	\$1,083,963	80	7.00%	\$763,203
81	2.75%	\$1,113,772	81	12.00%	\$854,787
82	1.00%	\$1,124,910	82	18.00%	\$1,008,649
83	2.00%	\$1,147,408	83	1.50%	\$1,023,778
84	1.00%	\$1,158,882	84	-4.00%	\$982,827
85	2.00%	\$1,182,059	85	-8.50%	\$899,287
86	1.00%	\$1,193,880	86	4.50%	\$939,755
87	2.00%	\$1,217,758	87	12.75%	\$1,059,573
88	1.00%	\$1,229,935	88	3.50%	\$1,096,659
89	2.00%	\$1,254,534	89	2.00%	\$1,118,592
90	1.00%	\$1,267,079	90	9.00%	\$1,219,265
91	2.00%	\$1,292,421	91	6.00%	φ1, 2 92,421
	3.44%	\$1,292,421		3.44%	\$1,292,421
					1

Sequence
of
returns
reversed

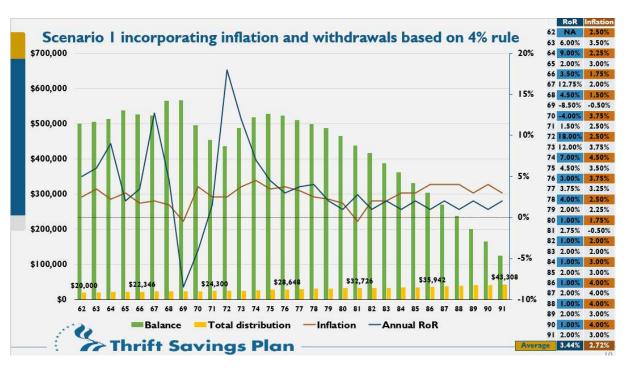
Same

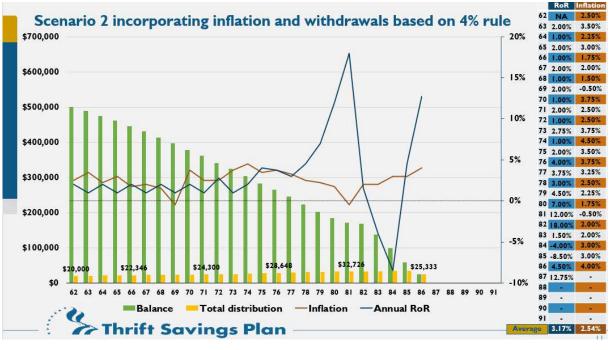
Same





Sequence of returns matters greatly if there are withdrawals!







Managing sequence risk

Spend conservatively

- Take distributions that are as small as you can afford for first few years of your retirement
- Might be painful and/or uncomfortable to live below the standard of living you desire

Flexing spending based on market returns

- Spend less when market returns are below a certain limit*
- Easier said than done!

Reduce the volatility of your investment mix

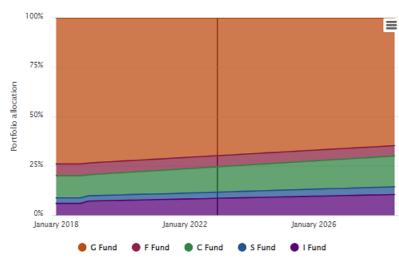
- Use the power of diversification and market risk mitigation built into the TSP's Lifecycle funds, e.g., the Lifecycle Income Fund
- Simple and automatic!



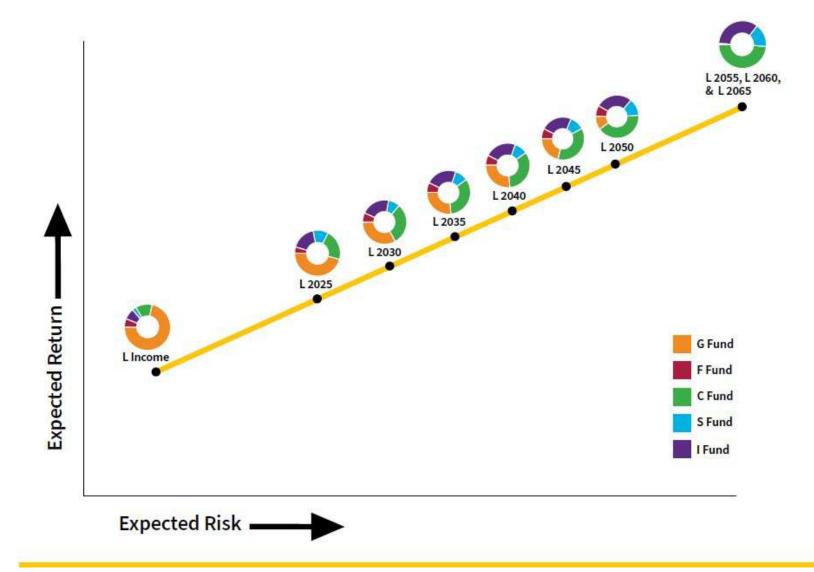
Lifecycle Income Fund

- Objective is to achieve a low level of growth with a high emphasis on preservation of assets
- The L Income Fund's asset allocation does not change quarterly
- It is rebalanced daily to maintain its target investment mix

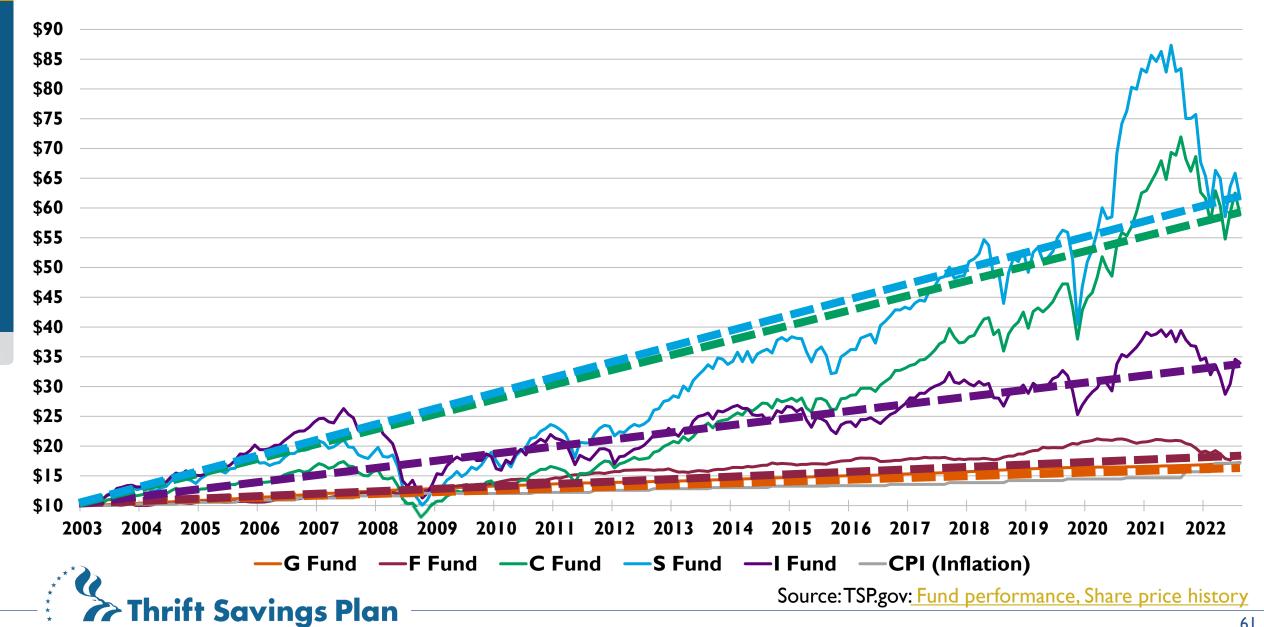
L Income Allocation



L Funds and the Efficient Frontier



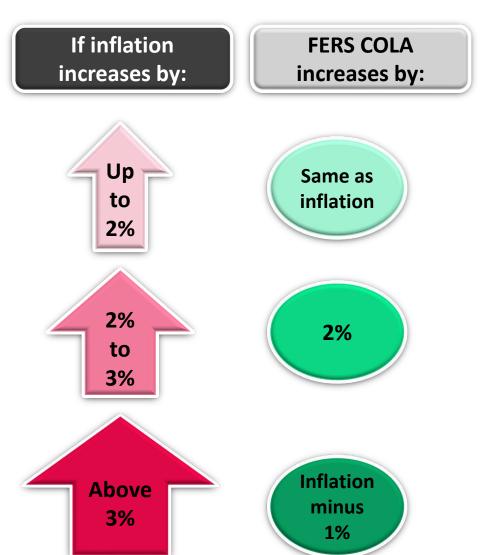
Performance of the TSP Fund Share Prices



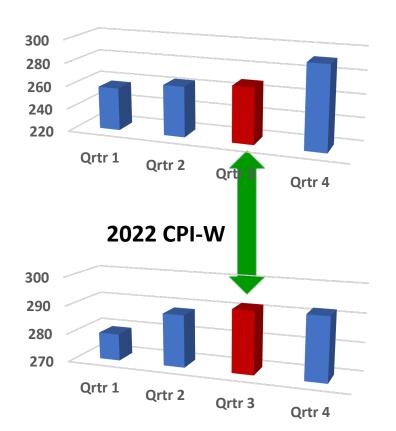
Spending shock risks

Inflation, Long-term care, Longevity related financial issues, Divorce, Death of a spouse, Changes to tax rules

Inflation – Impact on Cost of Living Allowances FERS COLA Social Security COLA



2021 CPI-W

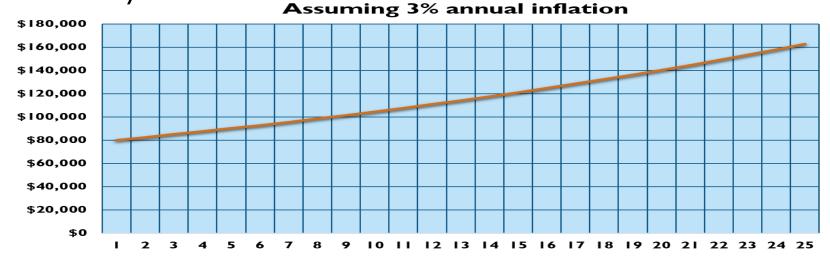


The average CPI-W for the third quarter of the previous year is compared to the average CPI-W for the third quarter of the current year. Whatever the percentage change is, Social Security benefits for the next calendar year will increase by the same amount.*

*Social Security Administration Publication No. 05-10526

Inflation - Impact on purchasing power

- Retirees face the risk that inflation will erode the purchasing power of their savings as they progress through retirement
- With 3 percent average annual; inflation, the purchasing power of a dollar will fall by more than half in 25 years



Managing inflation risk of a volatile portfolio

- Assume a particular inflation rate for entire retirement period and project spending increases accordingly, or
- Assume spending in today's dollars but project assets at a real rate of return that has inflation removed

However...

- Many retiree households' spending will not keep pace with inflation in as their consumption basket changes over time
- Many retirees may naturally consume less with age, which means their overall budget will not grow as quickly as the inflation rate

Retirement income drawdown strategies

Flooring, systematic, bucket

Retirement Income Strategies

- Focus of how to manage your TSP savings shifts from maximizing returns (accumulation) to provide income to meet spending needs and having a balance to draw from for the rest of your life (decumulation)
- There are many different "strategies" that span the spectrum of expected risk return as well as the logic (and motives) they're based on
- Assessing what strategy or strategies may be optimal for you can be very difficult and confusing but it can be done if you:
 - Are willing to do the research with an agnostic approach
 - Have a clear understanding of your attitudes and preferences when it comes to managing financial risk in retirement



Evaluate withdrawal options on an on-going basis

Not fully

comfortable with

income annuities

because of

commitment and

risk of pre-mature

death

Front-loading

Optionality

Contractually-protected lifetime income for essential expenses

Time segmentation (bucketing)

Evaluate withdrawal options on an on-going basis

Managing a diversified investment portfolio

Systematic withdrawals based on total returns

Comfortable with market growth despite volatility

Front-loading

Market
participation
with investment
growth

Contractually-protected lifetime income for essential expenses

Comfortable with income annuities despite commitment and risk of pre-mature death

Back-loading

Protected income

Diversified portfolio only for discretionary expenses

"Risk wrap"

Market
participation
with investment
growth

Guaranteed structured income for life

Concerned with longevity risk

Back-loading

Commitment

Thrift Savings Plan

6

Probability-Based

Retirement Income Strategies

Systematic Strategy

Probability-based

Optionality

4% Rule

- Begin by withdrawing an amount equal to 4% of account balance over the course of the first year
- For each subsequent year, multiply the preceding year's dollar amount and add an inflation factor based on the previous year's inflation rate
- Don't adjust for market returns
- Inflation will determine how much money is withdrawn
- Market returns will determine how long the money lasts

The math:

- Balance at retirement = \$500,000
- $$500,000 \times 4\% = $20,000$ (for first year)
- Monthly distributions = \$1,667/month
- Second year: Adjust for inflation (2.5%)
- \$20,000 × .025 = \$500
- \$20,000 + \$500 = **\$20,500**
- Monthly distributions = \$1,708/month

Essential vs.
Discretionary Strategy

Safety-First

Commitment

Projected annual cash flow

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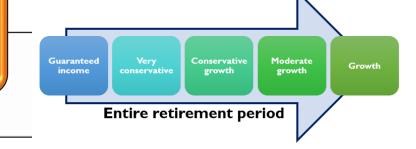
\$100,000

\$100,000

Time Segmentation Strategy

Safety-First

Optionality







Source: Pfau, Wade. 2017. How Much Can I Spend in Retirement: A Guide to Investment-Based Retirement Income Strategies.

Systematic Strategy

Example

4% Rule

- Begin by withdrawing an amount equal to 4% of account balance over the course of the first year
- For each subsequent year, multiply the preceding year's dollar amount and add an inflation factor based on the previous year's inflation rate
- Don't adjust for market returns
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- Market returns will determine how long the money lasts

The math:

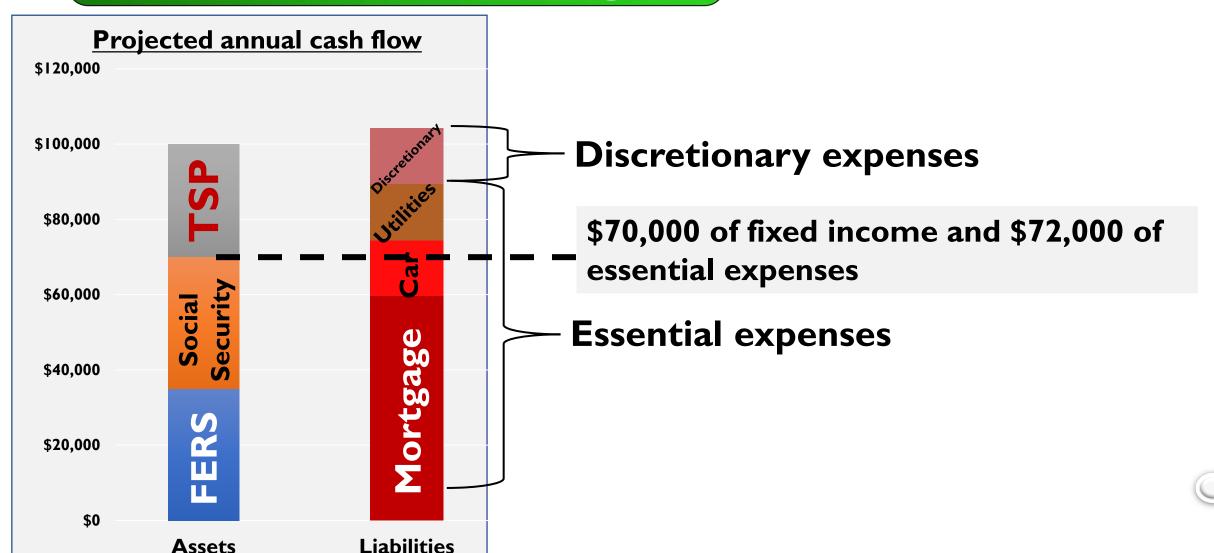
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- Monthly distributions = \$1,667/month
- Second year: Adjust for inflation (2.5%)
- $$20,000 \times .025 = 500
- \$20,000 + \$500 = **\$20,500**
- Monthly distributions = \$1,708/month





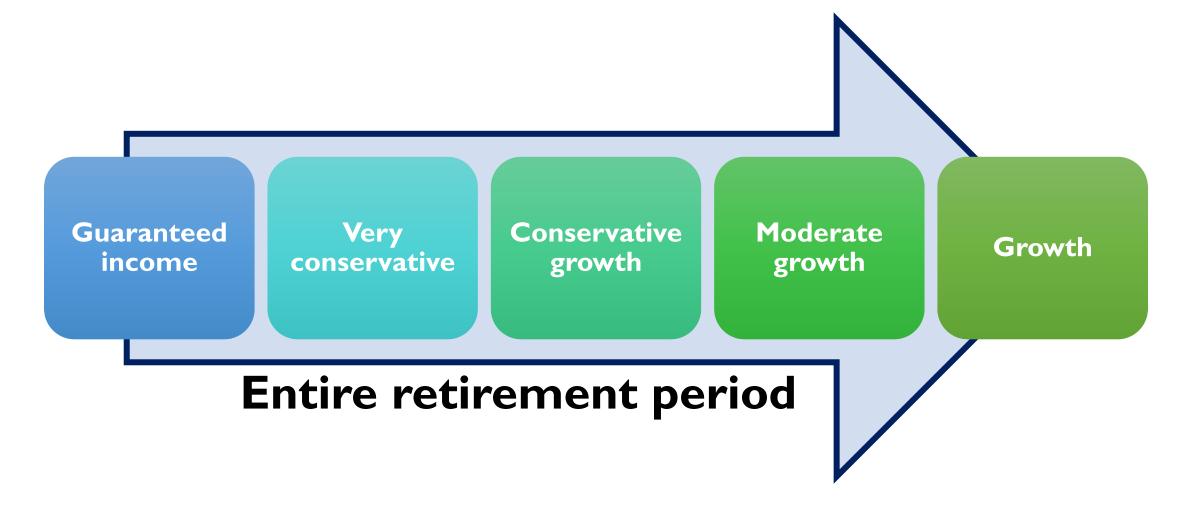
Essential vs. Discretionary Strategy

Example



Time Segmentation Strategy

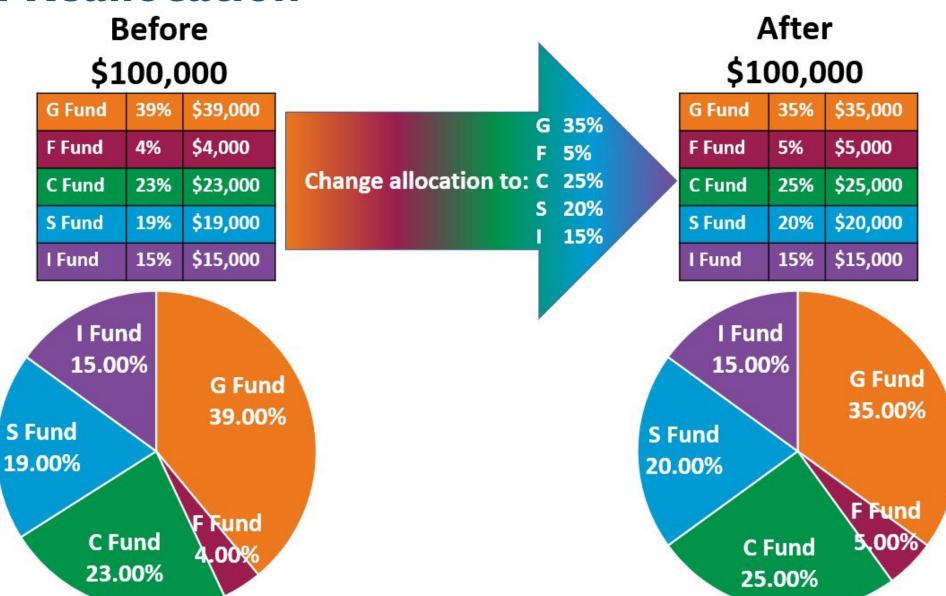
Example





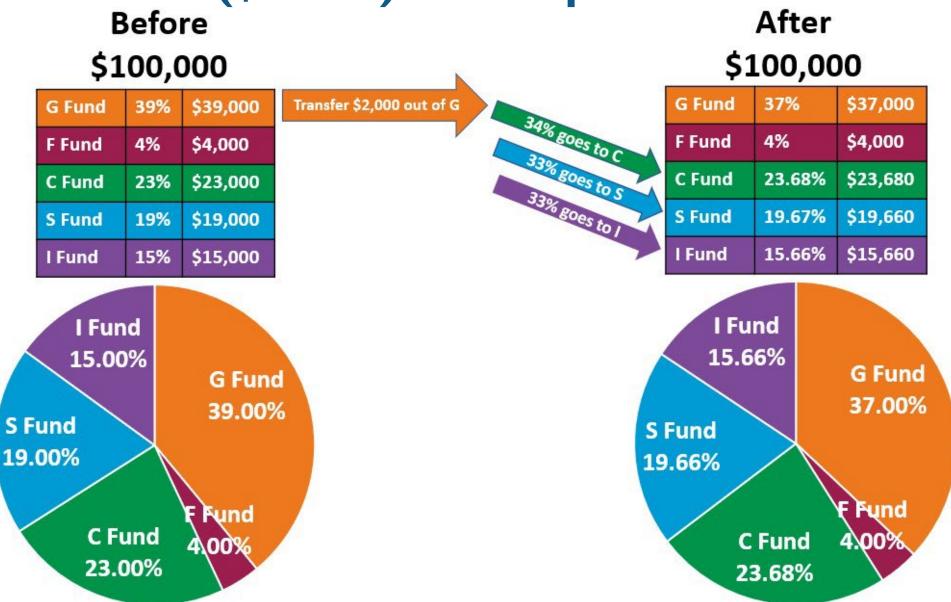
Fund Reallocation

Thrift Savings Plan



Fund Transfer (\$ basis) - example I

Thrift Savings Plan



Example of using a Funds Transfer to replicate taking withdrawal from only the G Fund

Retire receives installment payment from their TSP account – the payment comes out "pro-rata"

	Percent of	Pro-rata
Fund	account	withdrawal
G Fund	50.00%	\$1,500.00
F Fund	10.00%	\$300.00
C Fund	15.00%	\$450.00
S Fund	15.00%	\$450.00
I Fund	10.00%	\$300.00
	100.00%	\$3,000.00

Example of using a Funds Transfer to replicate taking withdrawal from only the G Fund

Retire receives installment payment from their TSP account – the payment comes out "pro-rata"

After retiree receives distribution, they do a funds transfer in their account

	Percent of	Pro-rata	Fund	Transfer	
Fund	account	withdrawal	Transfer	out	Transfer in
G Fund	50.00%	\$1,500.00	G Fund	\$1,500.00	
F Fund	10.00%	\$300.00	F Fund		\$300.00
C Fund	15.00%	\$450.00	C Fund		\$450.00
S Fund	15.00%	\$450.00	S Fund		\$450.00
I Fund	10.00%	\$300.00	I Fund		\$300.00
	100.00%	\$3,000.00		\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00

Example of using a Funds Transfer to replicate taking withdrawal from only the G Fund

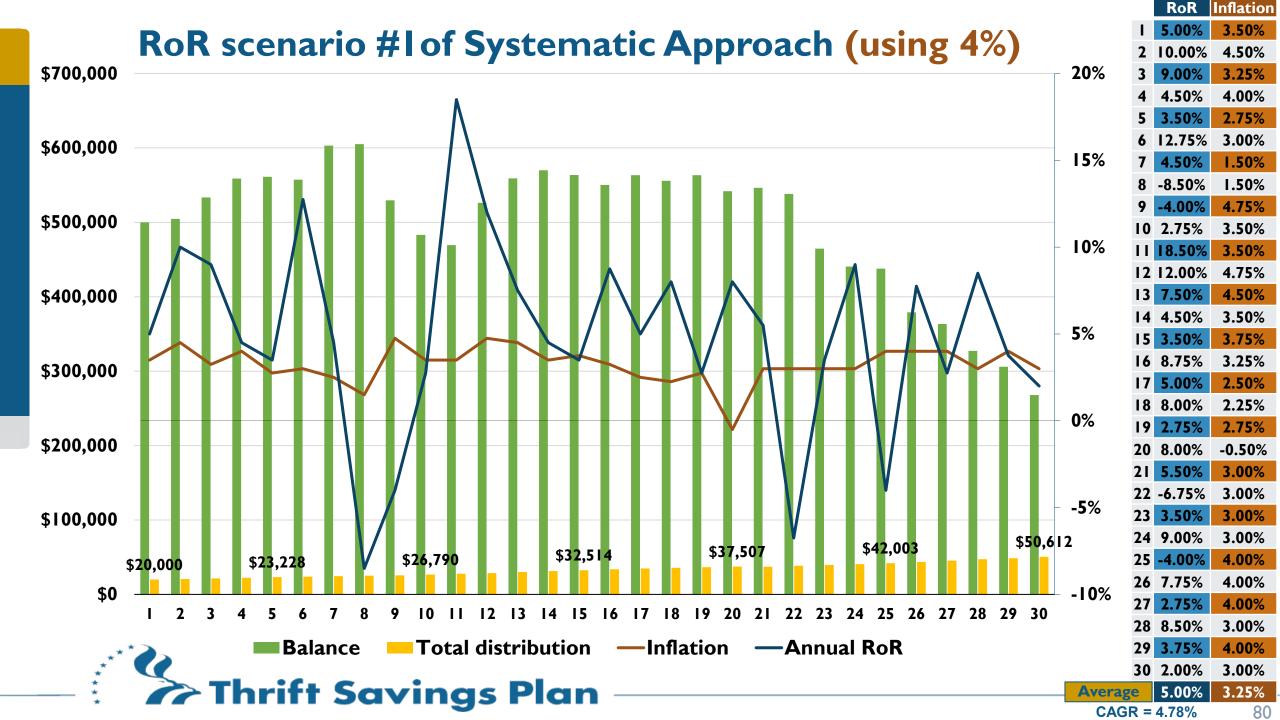
Retire receives installment payment from their TSP account – the payment comes out "pro-rata"

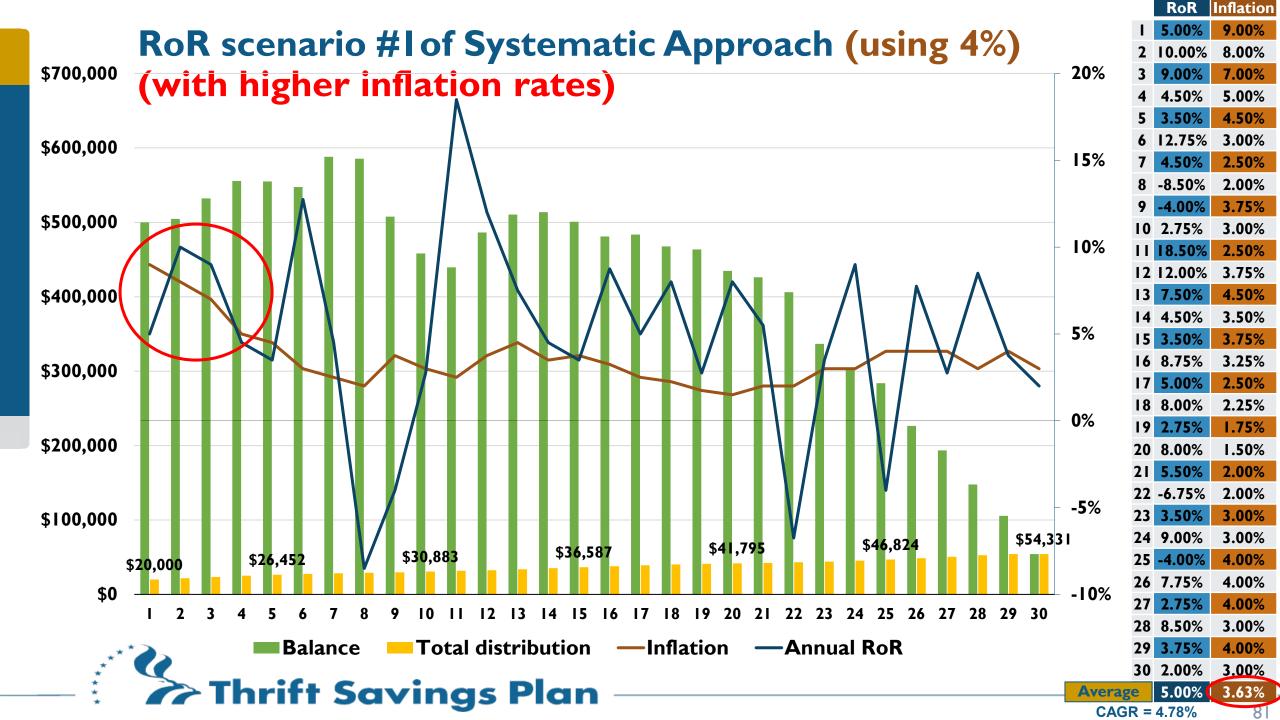
After retiree receives distribution, they do a funds transfer in their account

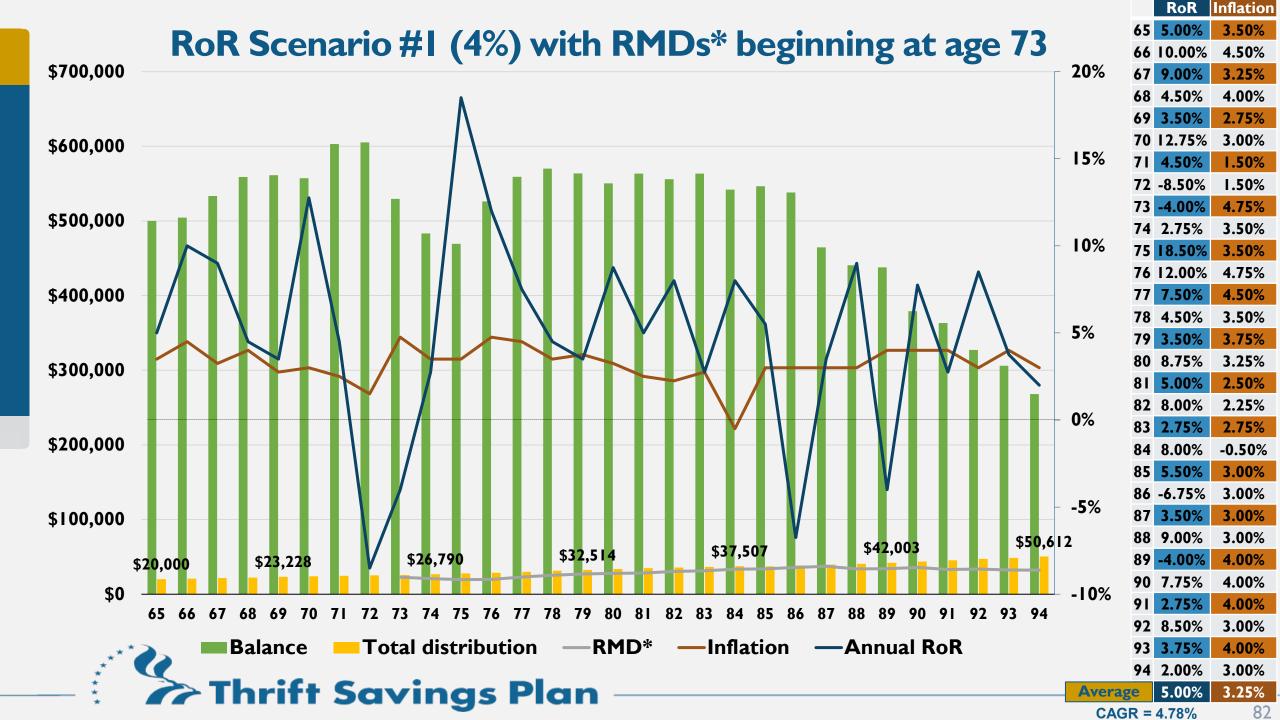
Impact of making the funds transfer is the equivalent of having taken a distribution from only the G Fund

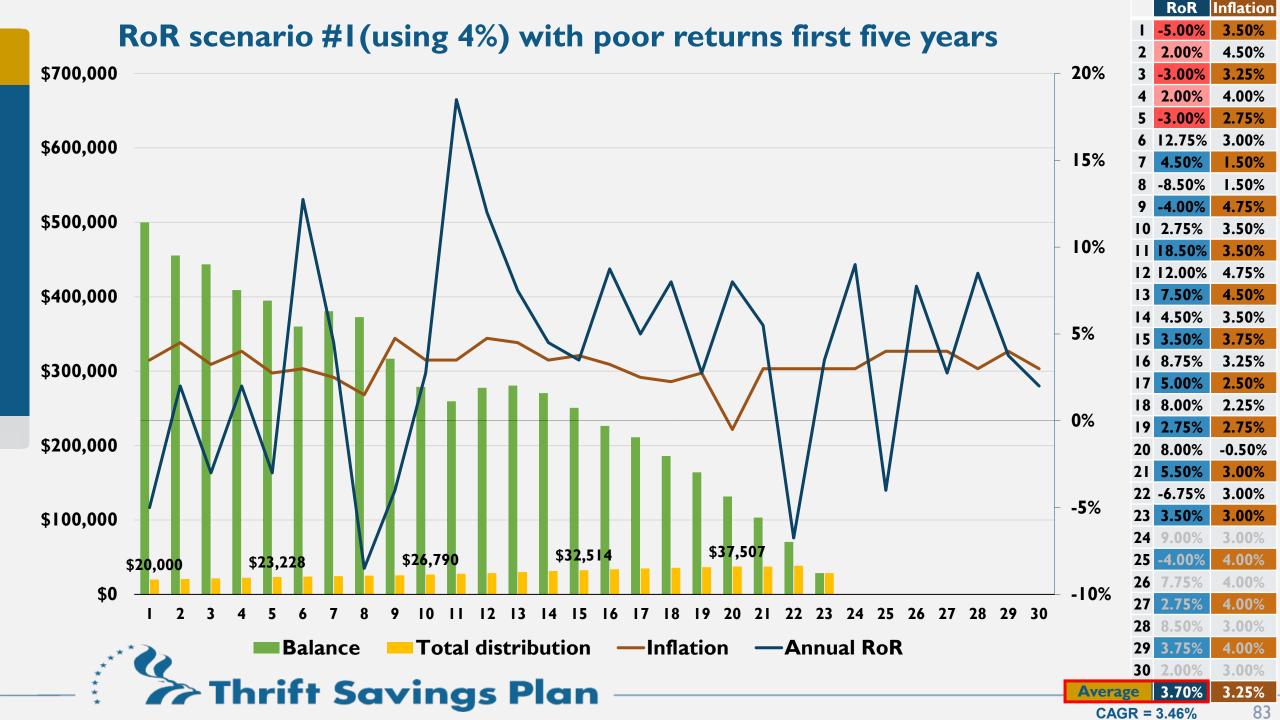
	Percent of	Pro-rata	Fund	Transfer		
Fund	account	withdrawal	Transfer	out	Transfer in	Change to balance
G Fund	50.00%	\$1,500.00	G Fund	\$1,500.00		-\$3,000.00
F Fund	10.00%	\$300.00	F Fund		\$300.00	\$0.00
C Fund	15.00%	\$450.00	C Fund		\$450.00	\$0.00
S Fund	15.00%	\$450.00	S Fund		\$450.00	\$0.00
I Fund	10.00%	\$300.00	I Fund		\$300.00	\$0.00
	100.00%	\$3,000.00		\$1,500.00	\$1,500.00	-\$3,000.00

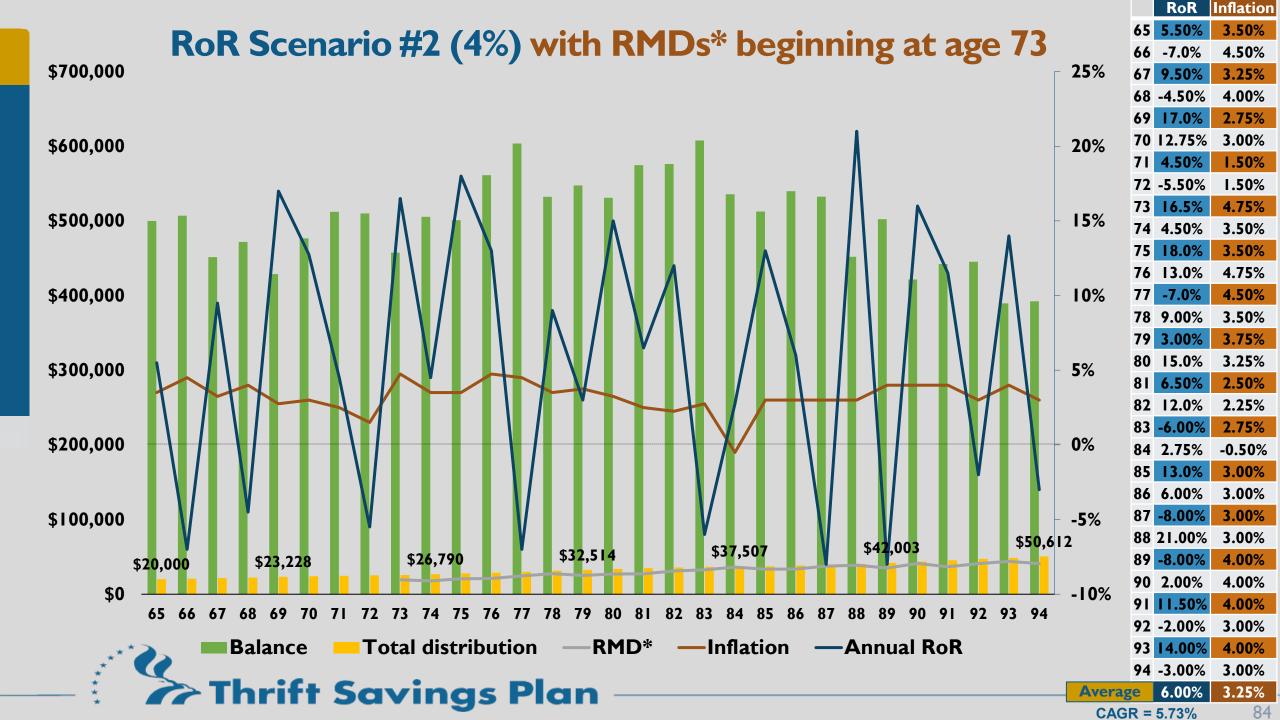
Drawdown and balance sustainability scenarios

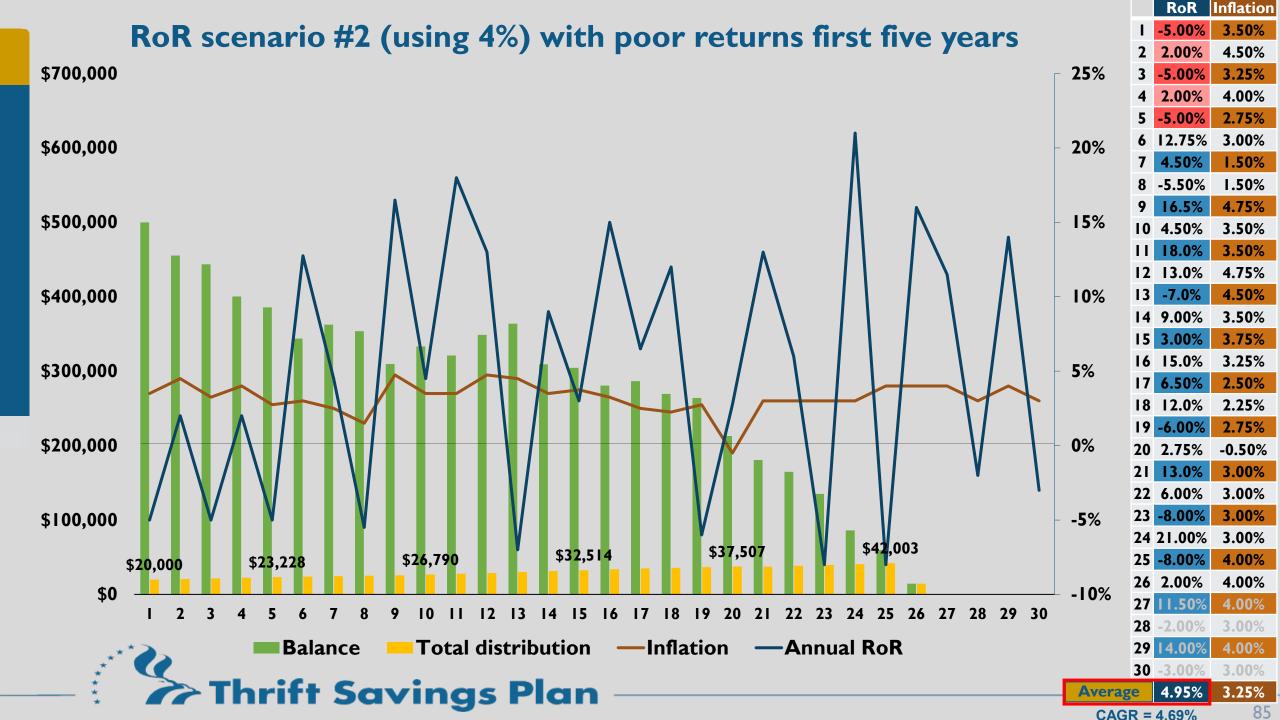


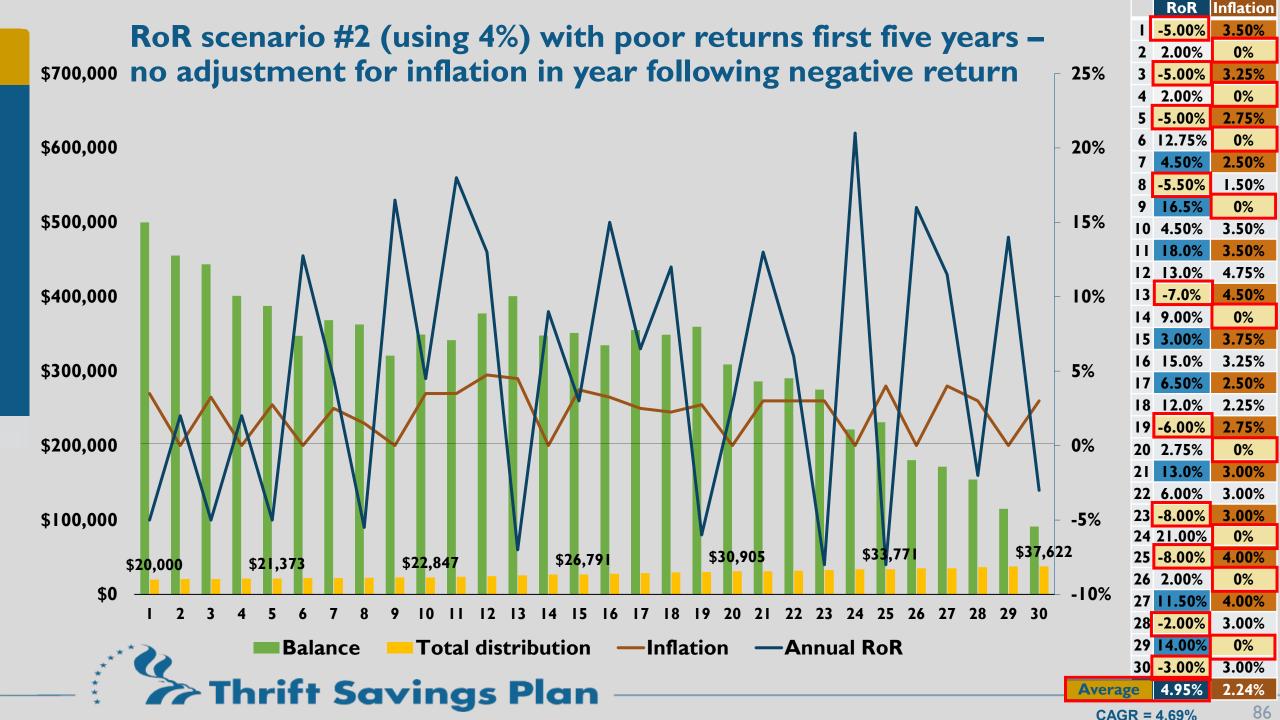


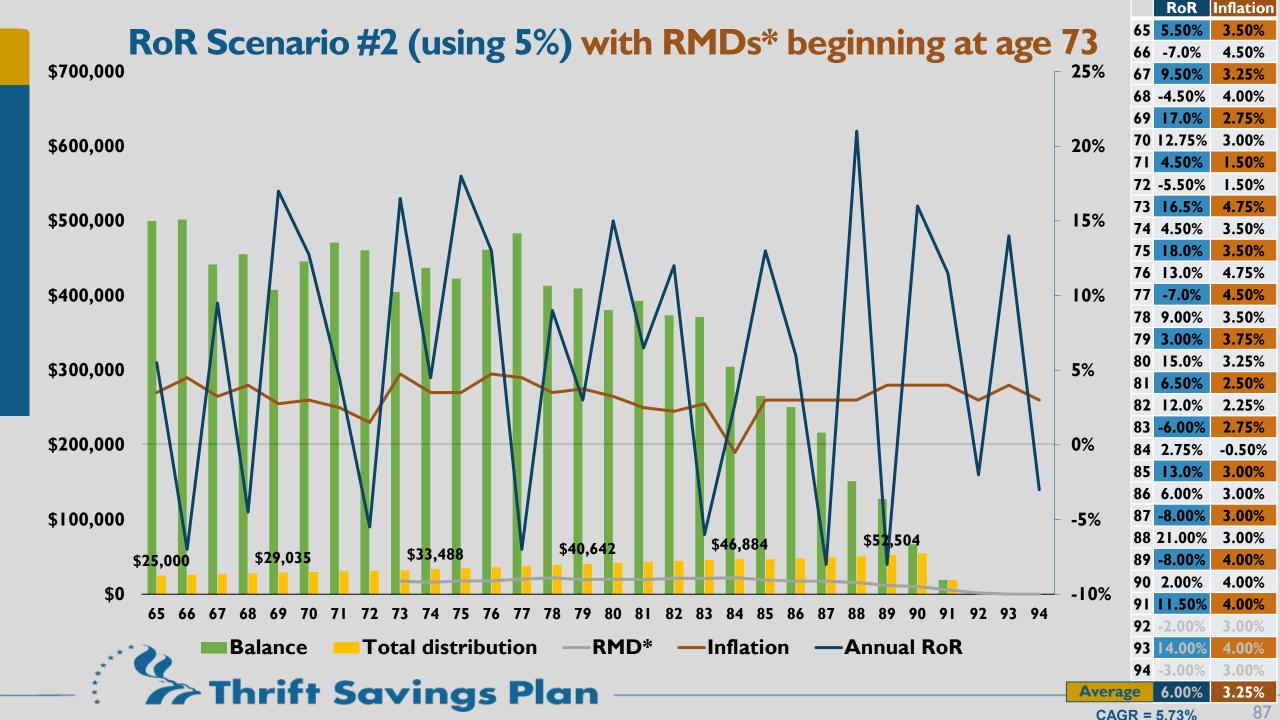


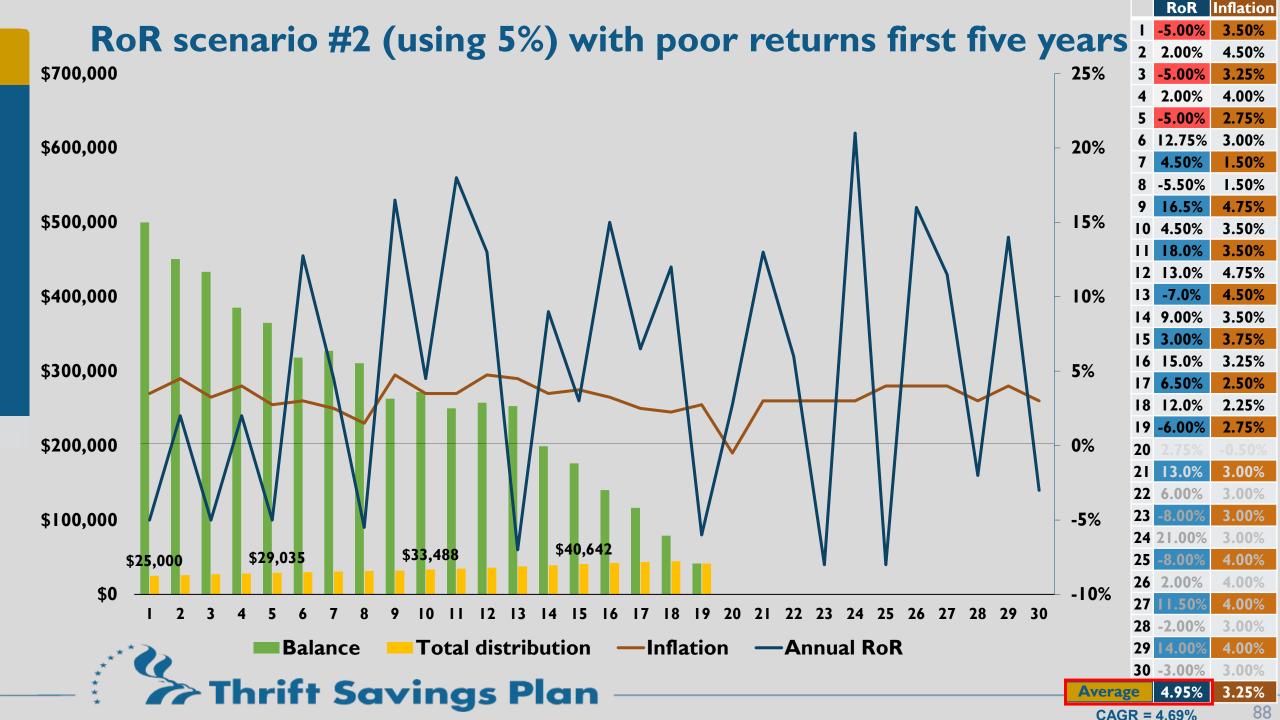


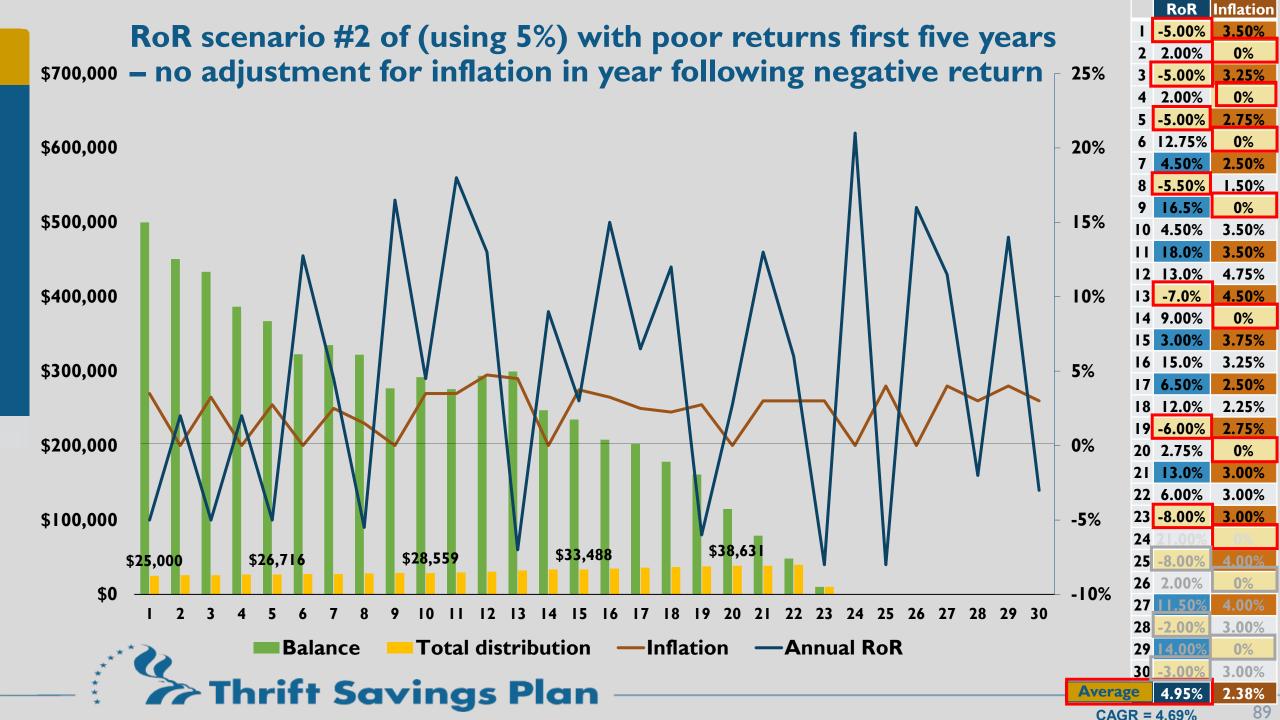












Case Study: Mike

Mike, age 56 is currently earning approximately \$96,000/yr. He wants to retire on ~80% of his income at age 65



He currently has \$250,000 in his TSP and is contributing at the rate of 5%.

If he continues to work until age 65 contributing at the same rate and his salary increases at ~3%/yr., and doesn't take out any loans or withdrawals, what would his balance be at age 65?

- At 5% Rate of Return (RoR)/yr ~ \$509,000
- At 7% RoR/yr ~ \$592,000



- If his salary increases at ~3%/yr., it will be about \$125,260 at 65
- 80% of his last year's salary would be about \$100,200
- His monthly "Expected Need" would be \$100,200 divided by 12:





Calculations made using https://www.aarp.org/work/retirement-planning/401k_calculator.html

Case Study: Mike

If Mike begins receiving Social Security retirement income at the beginning of his retirement (age 65), we can estimate his monthly benefit at \$2,232



Mike's FERS annuity at age 65 using FERS formula at OPM.gov:

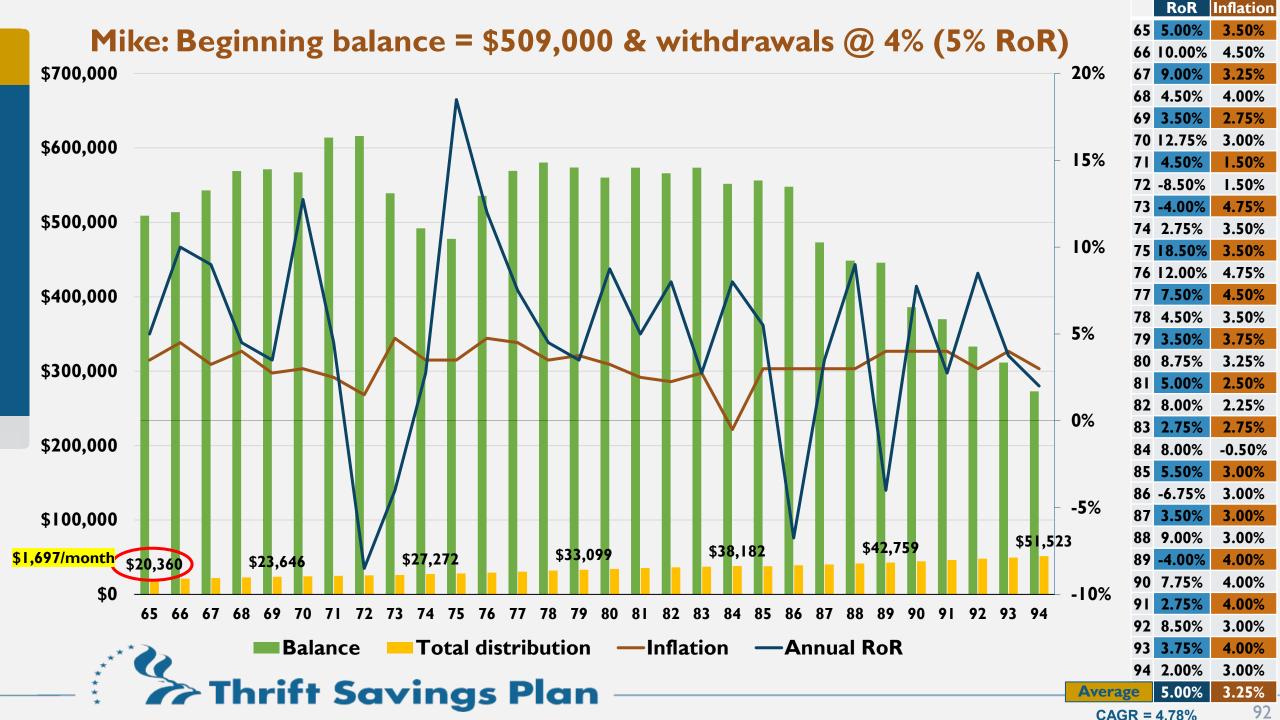
 $124,000 \times 30 \text{ years} \times 1.1\% = 40,920; \text{ subtract } 10\% \text{ for Survivor Annuity } ($36,828)$

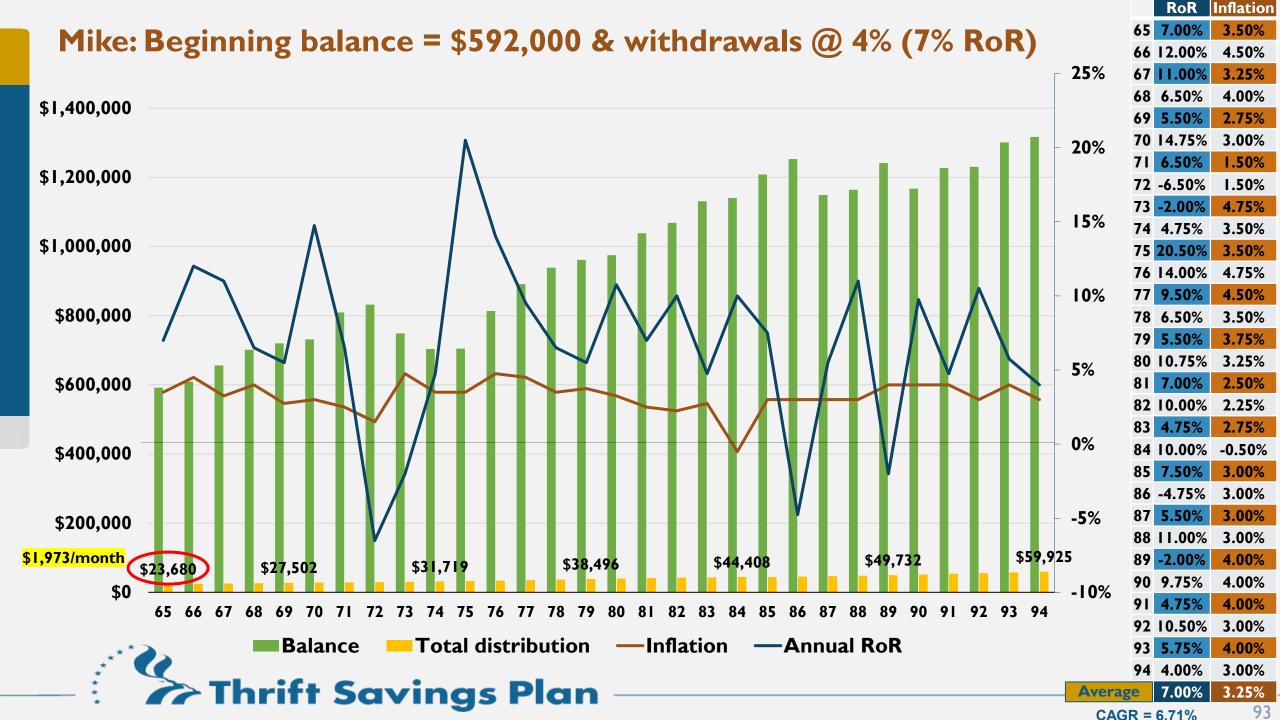


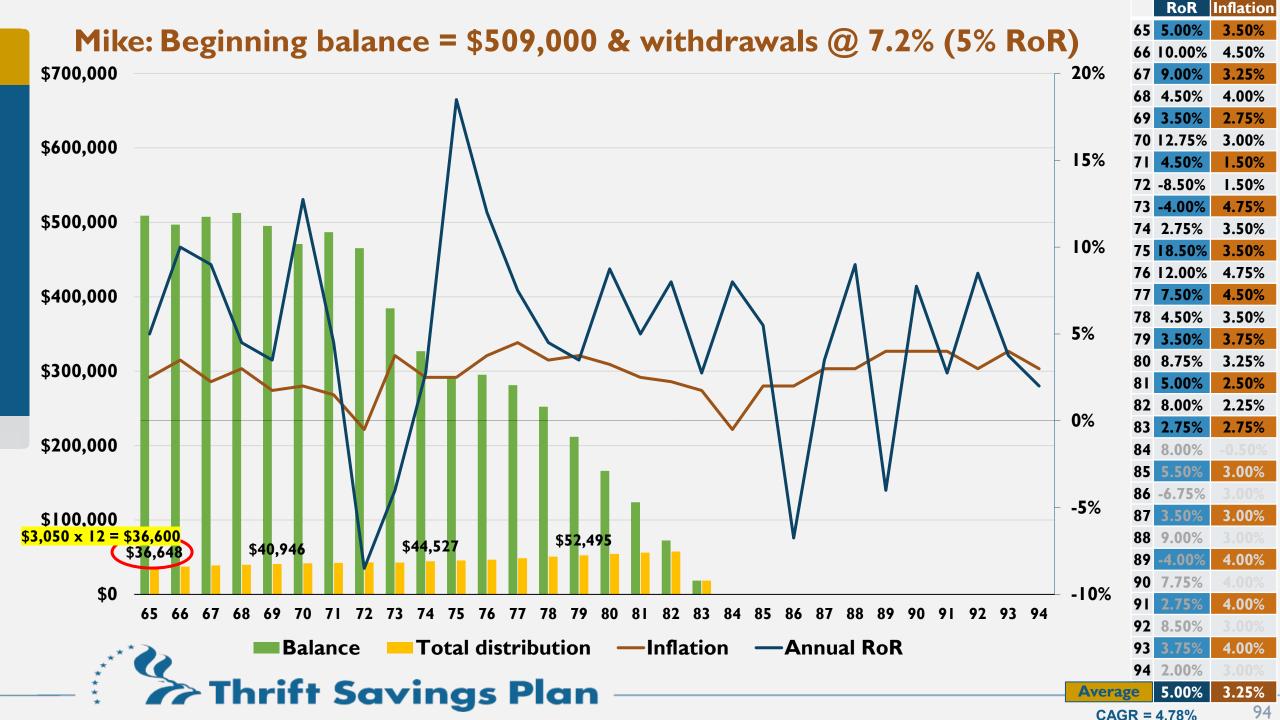
\$8,350

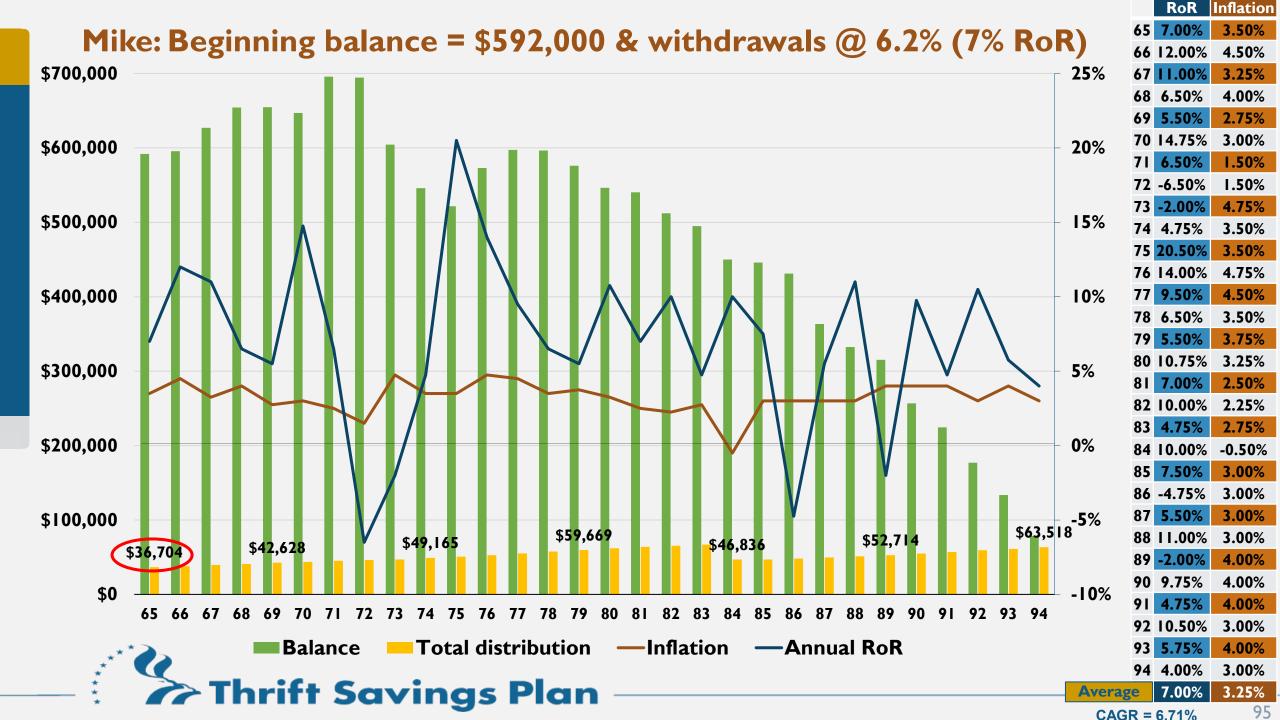
This is his total monthly income need

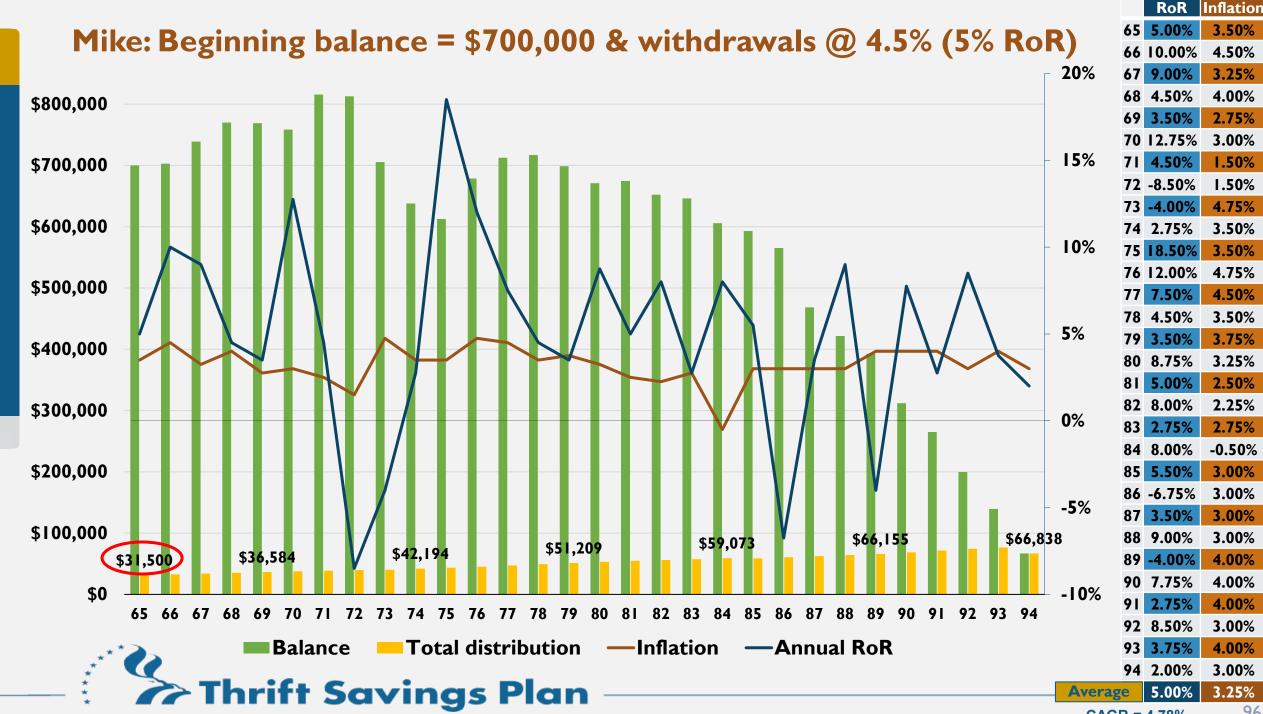












If Mike begins Social Security benefits at age 70

Retirement

Your estimated monthly benefit amount, beginning at age 70 in 2036, is \$3,287.00. For your estimate, we assumed no future increases in prices or earnings.

We have calculated your benefits by making certain assumptions about your past earnings. Please look at these earnings to see if they appear reasonable to you. You can change them and see the effect on your benefit estimates!

See the earnings we used

Information you submitted

Date of birth: 6/15/1966

Current earnings: \$96,000.00

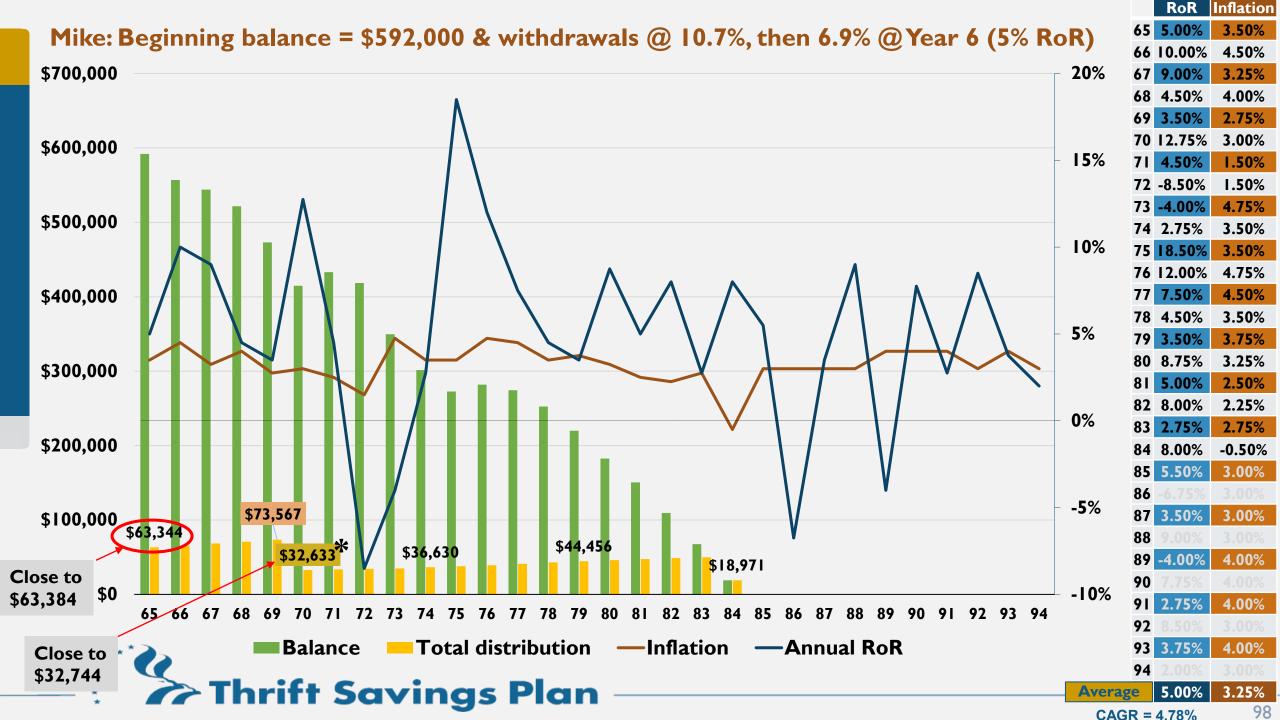
Benefit in year-2022 dollars

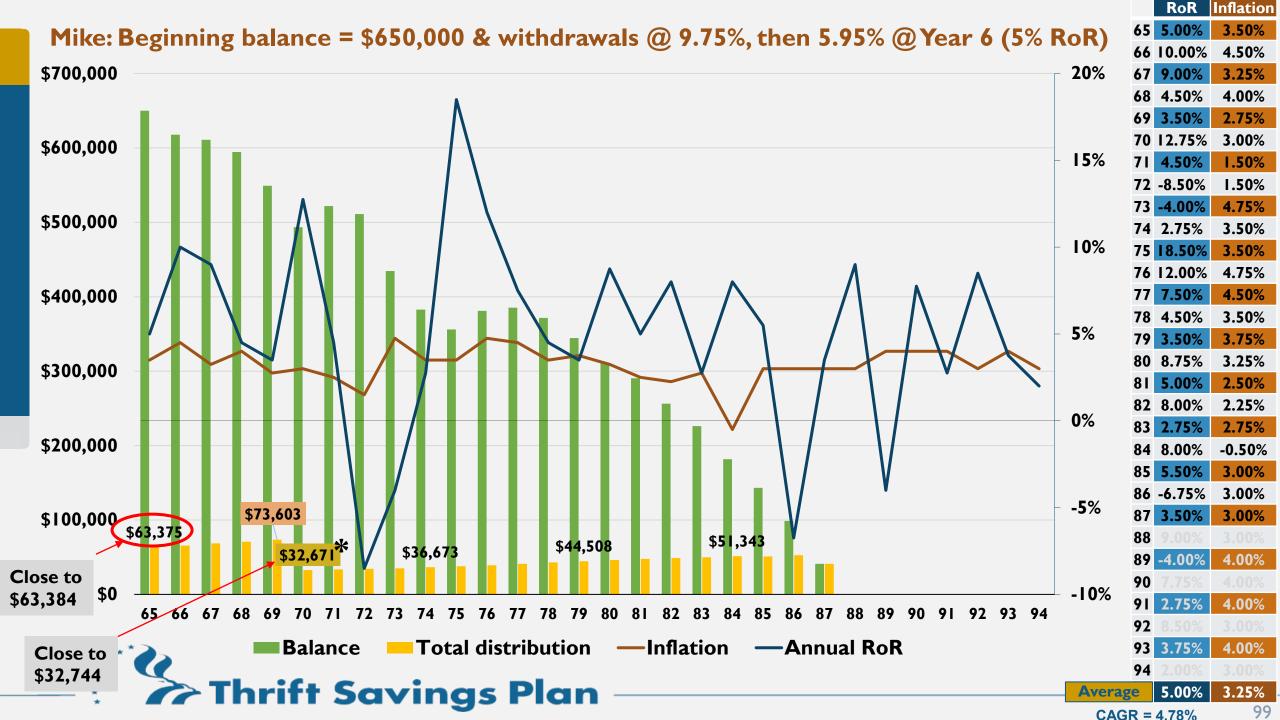
Retirement month: 6/2036

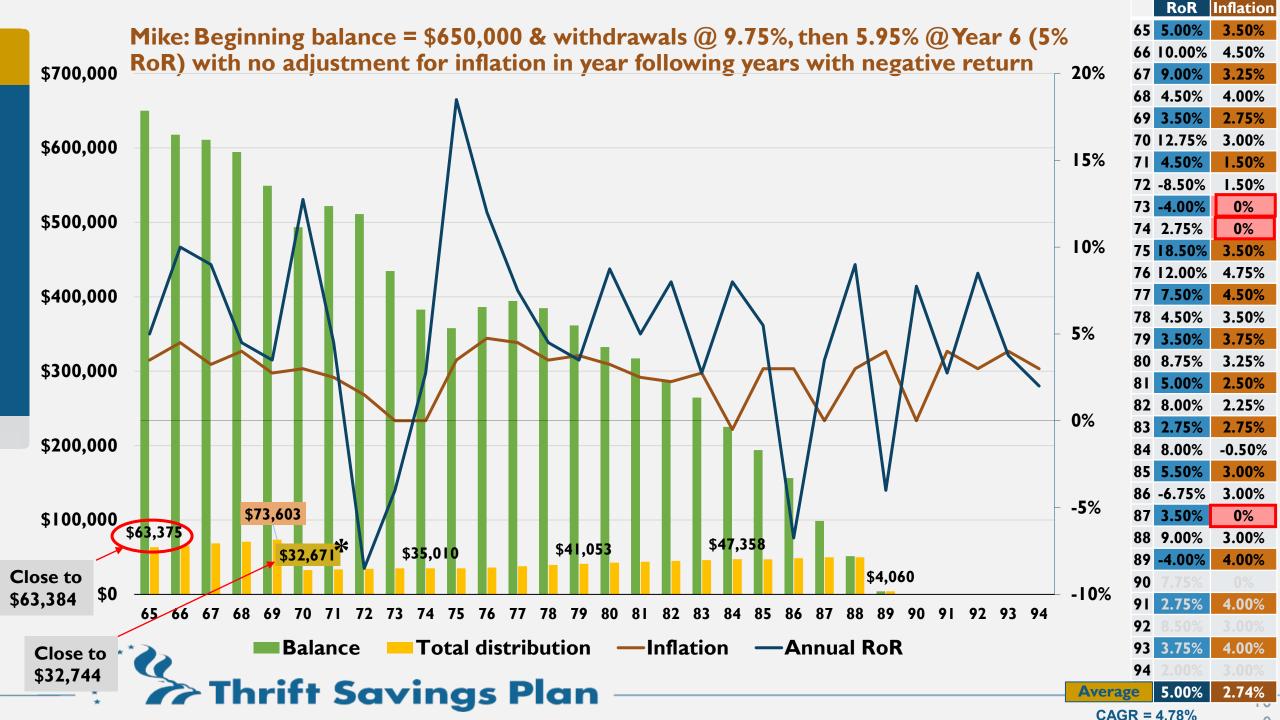
Social Security benefits are the foundation on which to build a financially secure retirement. Savings and pensions also are key components of your retirement plan.

Mike's annual benefit at age 70 would be: $$3,287 \times 12 = $39,444$









Key Takeaways

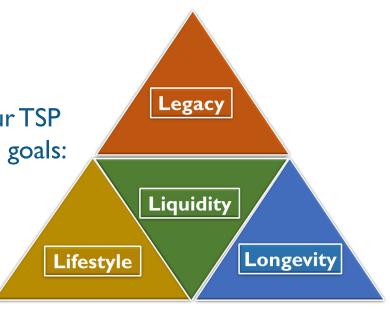
• Decisions regarding taking distributions (withdrawals) from your TSP account require careful planning to meet your retirement income goals:

• Maintain your desired overall standard of living in retirement

- Be able to fund your essential expenses in retirement
- Have funds available for spending shocks
- Leave assets for subsequent generations or charities



- Understand the risks associated with taking distributions, and
- Make assumptions that take those risks into account
- The Thrift Savings Plan offer significant advantages to retirees during the drawdown phase of retirement to mitigate risks:
 - Flexible distribution options
 - Flexible reallocation options
 - Easily adaptable to any drawdown strategy
- Broad diversification
- Lifecycle Funds
- Variety of income annuity options



Contacting the TSP

We're here to help.



AVA virtual assistant

<u>Get help from AVA</u>, the TSP virtual assistant, to get answers to general questions. To ask AVA account-specific questions and to connect to a ThriftLine Representative during business hours for a live chat session, log in to My Account and select the icon found on the bottom right of the page.



ThriftLine: 1-877-968-3778 (toll free)

Business Hours: Monday -Friday from 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Eastern Time

International: (404) 233-4400 (not toll free)



Email us

To contact ThriftLine outside of business hours, please email thriftline@tsp.gov. Do not email personally identifiable information.



General mailing address

ThriftLine Service Center C/O Broadridge Processing PO Box 1600 Newark, NJ 07101-1600

General fax number

1-352-730-9974



Secure participant mailbox

For account-specific communication sent electronically, log in to My Account and select the notification icon on the far right, to access your Secure Mailbox.



We help people retire with dignity

We administer the TSP solely in the interest of participants and beneficiaries

We help participants make smart choices



Survey

Thank you for taking the time to complete this short survey about your recent TSP training event. Your participation in this survey is voluntary but keep in mind the FRTIB (TSP) Education and Outreach Division uses these to improve the learning experience for TSP Participants, Beneficiaries, Agency and Service Representatives.



Please consider your answers carefully. This survey will be used to improve our services and provide you with information that is timely, relevant, and informative

https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LXMRMZF

